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# BEDFORD



## HOME NEWS

## Judge jails Malaysian heiress and her lover for 14 years for trafficking in Chinese heroin

A Malaysian heiress and her lover, described by Judge Argyle, QC, as being up to their necks in heroin trafficking, were given 14-year jail sentences at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

The judge said: "Shing ("May") Wong, aged 30, and her lover, Li Jaafar Mah, aged 26, headed a conspiracy to supply Chinese heroin between May and October, 1975, and were spreaders of crime, disease, corruption and even death."

He told Miss Wong: "When your tiny shadow fell on Gerrard Street, metaphorically the whole street was darkened and you and your confederate walked through the valley of the shadow of death."

Their co-conspirator, Mohi Yew, aged 32, of Montpelier Grove, Kentish Town, London, was jailed for 10 years. The judge told her that she might be regarded as the chief of staff, responsible for the collection of information and distribution of the drug.

Before dealing with Miss Wong and Li Jaafar Mah, who lived in St Mary's Avenue, Finchley, London, and Miss Yew, the judge sentenced 11 other people, all but one of them Chinese, who had been found guilty of or pleaded guilty to offences connected with Chinese heroin.

He told Miss Wong and Li Jaafar Mah: "You two were undoubtedly the ringleaders in this particular plot which was involved in the distribution of morphine [Chinese heroin]."

"You, Madam, are a man of previous good character, but when your business got into debt, you took up this type of crime at the highest level."

"In the course of your mitigation, it was accepted that you were the commander and

claimed only to have blamed Wong while she was safely in Singapore, apparently beyond the reach of the law in this country."

Li Jaafar Mah also had two guns capable of killing, and one had been fired.

The judge told Miss Wong he was taking into account in the sentence that she had spoken a native of Hongkong, nine years, on being found guilty of the main conspiracy and pleading guilty to three charges of unlawfully supplying the drug to other people.

Chi Sang, aged 53, Hongkong property owner, of Baseline Park Road, Shepherds Bush, London, was given a 10-year sentence for being a member of the conspiracy and pleading guilty to supply.

Peter Po Hunt Lee, aged 25, a Malaysian, of Westmorland Road, Westbourne, four years, on being found guilty of the main conspiracy; John Benito Ritchie, aged 35, a native of Hongkong, of Fenham Road, Lambeth, seven years, after pleading guilty to two charges of possessing for supply; Chin Keong (Mervyn) Yong, aged 23, of Milson Road, West Kensington, seven years, on pleading guilty to two charges of possession for supply; Peter Po Hunt Lee, aged 25, of Chelmer Road, Hackney, six years, on being found guilty of conspiracy.

Andrew Edward Franco, aged 34, of Hongkong and Northend Road, West Kensington, six years, on being found guilty to the main conspiracy and pleading guilty to possession for supply; Richard Blanchard, aged 22, an Australian, of Broadway, Yaxley, Peterborough, five-and-a-half years, on pleading guilty to two charges of supplying heroin to another person and including a maximum for breach of a suspended sentence; Chung Kong Wong, aged 24, a Malaysian, of Praese Street, Chiswick, five years, on pleading guilty to two charges of possession for supply; Voon Hin Lin, aged 23, a Malaysian, of Milman Road, West Hampstead, four years, on pleading guilty with intent to supply; Richard Tan, aged 23, of Milman Road, Bournemouth, three years, on pleading guilty to unlawful possession of the drug.

The judge deferred dealing with Stephen Chow Mann, aged 20, a native of Hongkong, of North Road, Barking, Essex.

Li Jaafar Mah was also given three-year and one-year sentences to run concurrently with the 14 years, after pleading guilty to possessing two pistols and ammunition on October 23, 1975.

## Call for closure of illegal gambling clubs

By Clive Borrell

Unlicensed gambling clubs in Soho, London, should be closed immediately by the police, Judge Argyle, QC, said at the Central Criminal Court.

These were the dens of drug smuggling, the judge said, and their existence should be brought to the attention of Sir Robert Mark, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. They were the cause of misery connected with the supply and trade in heroin.

Ironically, the judge continued, there appeared to be no satisfactory law that enabled the police to close the clubs until they became officially licensed. If the will was there there were ways in which the police could put them out of business.

Two detectives, Kenneth Beever and Anthony Headon, both sergeants attached to Vine Street police station, were assigned to infiltrate the Chinese quarter of Soho. For

months they sauntered around the streets converging on Gerrard Street, pretending to be in the drug business.

Eventually they were accepted as genuine "pushers". At much personal risk of violence to themselves and their families they slowly became the two vital "inside men" the police needed to smash the racket.

Once inside the organization the two officers were surprised to find that one of its two leaders was a beautiful Malaysian woman, May Wong, aged 30, a former pupil of Roedean, who completed her education at a finishing school in Kensington before becoming a model.

She had come to London, she said, and trailed a gang of friends, a Chinese secret society, who she believed had been responsible for the murder of her father, a wealthy bullion dealer, four years earlier. She left her husband and children to insinuate herself into an



Sir Paul Reilly, Director of the Design Council, holding a royal silver jubilee mug designed by Lord Snowdon in selecting items for display the judges looked for imaginative ideas and good use of materials.

## 2,000 view jubilee souvenirs

By Peter Godfrey

More than two thousand people visited an exhibition of souvenirs manufactured to commemorate the Queen's silver jubilee on its opening day at the London Design Centre yesterday. Several lines of goods were sold out.

The exhibits were admired by many British visitors but received more quizzical scrutiny from foreigners. All agreed that the products made by sixteen companies, selected by a design panel chaired by the Prince of Wales, achieved in most cases a high degree of craftsmanship.

The products on display range from a limited edition of basalt and gold Wedgwood mugs costing £75 each to cufflinks, can-openers and, for the painstaking, a jigsaw which assembles to reveal the score of "God Save the Queen". A "Corgi toast rack" on display has yet to receive the official sanction. But the seal of

approval has been granted to a "version of a Victorian peep-show showing her Majesty's coronation procession coming down The Mall".

Although the products exhibited will enjoy special prestige, any company can purchase the right to use the silver jubilee symbol for £10, half of which is given to the Queen's Silver Jubilee Appeal, aimed at encouraging young people to undertake community projects.

A glut of souvenirs is expected.

Not all those on display at the Design Centre measure up readily to the high standard. A children's silver jacket some what akin to a space suit was found, much to the consternation of the organisers, to have "Made in Italy" prominently embossed on it, although the manufacturer was quick to rectify that technical hitch. A gaudy souvenir T-shirt might perhaps find more wearers at rock concerts.

Appropriately, in these revolutionary days, leather beer mats are available decorated with either an English or Scottish crown. Perhaps the last chuckle will go to Laughing Monarch Products Ltd, of Penzance, which produced a pewter dish only three inches across, a bargain at £5.50.

## Minister promises to restrain food prices

By Hugh Clayton

Consumer groups formed an unprecedented alliance with the Government yesterday against higher food prices. They reported enthusiastically that Mr John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, had assured them that "spiralising food prices would be held back in 1977".

Mr Michael Young, chairman of the Government-appointed National Consumer Council, said after representatives of 20 associations had met Mr Silkin that they wanted to form a united front with consumer groups throughout the EEC against unnecessarily high farm-support prices.

"We are not against the Common Market", Mr Young said. Mrs Joan Mackintosh, deputy chairman of the council, added: "There is no question of bashing farmers. Let us get the equilibrium right between the interests of farmers and consumers."

Those who lobby ministers of agriculture customarily make statements to reporters afterwards on the steps of the ministry. Mr Young and his team were given a large conference room.

Even more remarkably, they gave an account of what Mr Silkin had said which was more revealing than his own laconic statements issued through officials. This said: "The consumer groups have reemphasized some points on which my ministry is already known, including the need to hold down common agricultural policy support prices."

"Increases have kept well ahead of the cost of living over the past three years, and an average yield will provide the best-growth with an adequate return. There is no reason to give farmers financial incentives so that they will increase their area under sugar beet and produce surpluses."

Community price levels for two years, but he had condemned the system for creating food surpluses irrespective of whether shoppers wanted to buy it.

This is the last year in which British food prices move upwards in stages towards full EEC levels under the terms of an agreement signed in 1973. Mr Young said those movements alone would add 6d a pound to butter, the spring and again to butter, autumn and 1p to a large loaf.

He thought those rises would add enough to farmers' incomes without the need for more increases at the imminent Community price-fixing.

There was only one point on which Mr Silkin had not given the group all they wanted. They had sought an assurance that the Government would not accept a devaluation of the "green pound", the device with which EEC farm prices are expressed in sterling.

Mr Young quoted the minister again: "He said that this

## Six-month deadline for 20 more schools

By Our Education Correspondent

Mrs Williams, Secretary of Education Science, is to give a more local education authority a six-month deadline next year to produce plans for comprehensive.

The list of authorities to be made final before Williams announces it in the House of Commons before the Education Act, 1976, into effect.

The list will be divided into three groups. The first will include Bolton and other authorities which Williams feels do not go comprehensive. They are given the right, authorities which receive six-month deadline last year: Kingston upon Thames, Essex, Tafford, Sutton and Redbridge.

The second category receives the deadline will those authorities although they have gone way to reorganize their's as comprehensive, still large pockets of selective of them in Devon, and Williams' new directive aimed at Plymouth and Tiverton.

The third category in authorities that have gone completely comprehensive for the individual school run as a voluntary or controlled school. The target will be Birminham where there are four Edward's grammar school in the state sector, and Wimborne.

He was before the court yesterday for a similar offence persistently neglecting to train himself in consequence which benefit was awarded him his needs between 15 and July 22 last year pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three months imprisonment, suspended for two years.

Mr Paul said through his lawyer that if he took up the offer of the jobs offered he would be worse off after fares expenses. He had been employed until 1973 and said that he would have back to work.

Mr John Nichols, the ringleader, said: "I am going to give you a chance to decide this change of those

## Man getting £31 benefit 'was offered £33 jobs'

A man who has not worked

since 1973 complained that he was sent after jobs offering £33 a week when he was drawing £31 a week in benefits for himself and his wife and two children, Old Street Magistrates' Court, London, was told yesterday.

Mr Basil Corcos, prosecuting on behalf of the Post Office, said Anil Paul, aged 46, had told a Department of Employment official: "Find me a £30 a week job and I'll go after it."

Mr Paul, a turner, living in a council flat in Stanway Street, Hoxton, was sentenced to a month's imprisonment in December, 1975, for neglecting to maintain himself. Mr Corcos said.

## Two to appear after £150,000 Scots bank raid

Two men are to appear at

Airdrie Sheriff Court, Strathclyde, today in connexion with a robbery in which more than £150,000 was stolen from the Royal Bank of Scotland at Cumbernauld, near Glasgow, yesterday.

Police officers arrested two men near Stirling after road blocks had been set up.

Mr James Binnie, Assistant Chief Constable, Crime, of Strathclyde, said the stolen money had been recovered, as had two firearms.

The robbery was at a bank on the edge of Cumbernauld new town.

## Pop group gifts described

Mr Alan Dunn, road manager of the Rolling Stones' group, was asked at Aylesbury Crown Court, Buckinghamshire, yesterday if the group were given drugs by their fans. Mr Dunn was giving evidence for the defence during the trial of Keith Richard, aged 33, guitarist with the group, who had pleaded not guilty to charges of possessing LSD.

Mr Dunn said in reply to Bruce Laughland, for the prosecution, that fans offered him drugs when they came face to face with the group. It was impossible to say whether they offered LSD.

Mr Laughland: Did I often receive gifts of Vicor silver?

Mr Dunn: The range of was enormous. It is a possibility.

Mr Laughland alleges Mr Richard wore a silver necklace round his neck with silver tube attached used sniffing cocaine.

Mr Ian Stewart, of Bans Road, Banstead, Surrey, had been connected with the Rolling Stones since the group's formation in 1963, said he did not give any instance when had put a drug into the pocket of any member of group but he had known it open "generally" in the past.

If members of the group forced their way through it was possible that could be put in their pocket.

Criticizing the police, Peter Rawlinson, QC, Richard's counsel, said: "I often stopped for some time office or other we would be stripped and searched."

The trial continues today.

## Norfolk population

The rate of growth of population of Norfolk by is expected to increase 50,000 to more than 700,000 much slower rate because the economic climate.

## Industrial democracy 3: Factory councils have influential role in foundation of good relations in West Germany

By Dan van der Vat

Legally guaranteed and enforced participation by workers in running their place of work is almost universal in both public and private sectors in West Germany, and is regulated by four seminal statutes.

They are: the law on worker participation in the coal, iron and steel industries (Montan-Mitbestimmung) of 1951, the works constitution law of 1952 (as amended in 1972), the personnel representation law of 1955 and the law on (general) worker participation (new-model Mitbestimmung) of 1976.

While foreign interest tends to focus on Montan-Mitbestimmung, the law on workers' participation in the coal, iron and steel industries is the true foundation of industrial democracy in West Germany and deserves to be examined first. The personnel representation law is effectively an adaptation of it to suit the public sector.

It applies to all firms with 500 or more employees and requires that a works council be established.

Mitbestimmung works at company rather than factory level, and originally affected only companies in the coal, iron and steel industries with more than 500 employees.

It applies to all firms with 500 or more employees. In general there are exceptions: it requires a works with 500 or more employees to set up a works council, on which one

member in three must come from, or represent, the shop floor.

They are elected for three years by the works assembly of all the staff. The other two thirds are elected by shareholders from the management.

Although the workers are outnumbered by two to one, they have absolute right of access to the plant if they tell the employer he is coming.

If there is a dispute neither

side on the council can take unilateral action. The management cannot order a change, nor can the workers down tools.

The council has the right to determine working conditions, notice periods, starting times, breaks, social matters and the like, and the duty to ensure that industrial legislation is applied in the works to the benefit of the work force.

Mitbestimmung works at

the works level, and is theoretically equally divided between management and workers, at least one on the "workers" side must be a senior executive.

The ruling Social Democrats

wanted to extend Montan-Mitbestimmung to the largest

companies, but were prevented by constitutional difficulties and by the opposition of their coalition partners, the Free Democrats.

As new-model Mitbestimmung came into force on July 1, it is too early to say whether it is a success.

An important provision in both forms of the system is that workers' interests must be represented on the management board by a labour director who controls personnel and who is responsible for workers' welfare.

Such a provision also applies to all plants owned by concerns large enough to have Mitbestimmung at the top.

There is no concrete evidence that Mitbestimmung has improved labour relations, but plenty that works constitution law has done so. That less spectacular but much more widespread form of industrial democracy is one of the main reasons for West German prosperity and industrial peace.

To be concluded

## Ministry studies Children Act errors

By Pat Healy

Social Services Correspondent

The Department of Health and Social Security is considering what action may be necessary in the light of inaccuracies in the Children

## SIX-MONTH NEWS

## deadlines simplifying air fares would mean rises, inquiry will be told

By Our Education Correspondent  
Mrs Williams  
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Some fares would go  
up, but others, notably first  
class, would rise sharply. Most

£31 benefit  
£33 jobs  
insurance change for  
house rebuilding

Staff Reporter

Householders whose homes have been damaged by subsidence may soon find that they have to find hundreds of pounds more than they expect to meet repairs, even though they are insured.

Most insurance companies have faced claims for subsidence damage over the past year because of the drought, and decided to require householders of policies to pay excess of 3 to 5 per cent of cost of rebuilding the house if not, as at present of its insured value.

Householders whose properties are underinsured might find their part of the repair to be much larger than they expected. Most insurance companies are now sending out

One-day strike  
called over  
telephone cuts  
described

Christopher Thomas

A one-day strike by 35,000 workers in the telecommunications industry has been called February 14 by the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union to protest at Post Office cuts in rates on telephone exchange equipment.

The union, which is seeking support of seven other unions, says 20,000 jobs are threatened.

Its action will not affect phone services, as the union's members are not employed directly by the Post Office. Mr Roy Sanderson, the union's officer, said last night 14,000 jobs had already been lost because of reduced Office orders.

In November 8 the Post Office announced a reduction £200m in its forthcoming string levels. The unions and manufacturing companies have proposed an alternative strategy involving a more aggressive pricing policy. They suggest scrapping telephone installation charges and proposed a single telephone tariff. A high inquiry into the Post Office and its relationships with manufacturing companies has been called for.

Safety and price warning  
in open-flame gas fires

John Charles

the North Western Gas Consumers' Council yesterday issued a combined safety and warning against open "log-effect" gas fires which are being sold in their usages.

statement by its chairman, George Read, spoke of "a great possibility of danger" with some models. He said the British Gas Corporation was not prepared to sell service log-effect fires, only on the ground of low efficiency.

He said it was alleged that manufacturers had installed artificial ash which had led to be fibres of asbestos. They might prove a great hazard. Ventilation was vital.

Manufacturers quoted figures meant than an 18-inch fire used as much gas as a small central heating boiler, and a off the same amount of gas as a one-bar electric fire. A log-effect fire on cheap gas tariffed on for four hours 1 weekday and eight hours 1 Saturday and Sunday would cost the consumer about a quarter.

Arthur Corry, chairman of "House of Living Fire", of Great Manchester, said three thousand appliances at about £100 each in

## Amenities decline since civic changes

Reorganization of local government has not, as was hoped, improved "the environmental field", the Civic Trust for the North West says.

British Airways' case in the inquiry today is that European fares are soundly based, with normal economy fares, in general, not overpriced. Most European fares were reasonably related to costs incurred by scheduled airlines operating in Europe.

Its revenue share in Europe in 1977-78 was expected to be nearly £350m, of which £210m should be in foreign currency earnings. Reducing normal fares in Europe could only lessen those earnings and pass a substantial, though losses, from Britain to foreigners who were not greatly in need of one.

That, British Airways says, would conflict with government objectives and with national interest and common sense.

British Caledonian will submit that the committee's recommendations do not represent a realistic or workable means of changing the present structure of European air fares.

Reducing differentials between normal and promotional fares would mean fare increases having to be borne by that segment of the market least able to afford higher air fares: those using scheduled services, for inclusive tour holidays and taking advantage of excursion areas by unnecessary signs and lighting standards.

Professor Ashworth said that since local government reorganization it seemed to take twice as long to get a decision on any planning matter.

Ask (Civic Trust for the North-West, 56 Oxford Street, Manchester, £2.50).

He said the time had come for them to reactivate themselves and fight against such offences as the creation of out-of-scale buildings, the unnecessary felling of trees, and the despoliation of conservation areas by unnecessary signs and lighting standards.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Señor Suárez meets negotiating team of opposition parties

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, Jan 11

Shooting in the past two days and a rash of demonstrations in which at least two persons have died in a week have aroused fears that Spain might be on the verge of a situation comparable to that in Argentina, of uncontrolled and escalating violence.

However, the Suárez Government remains calm and appears to be moving firmly towards its announced democratic goals.

A negotiating team of four, representing virtually all the opposition parties from centre to left, was received today by Señor Suárez. Opposition leaders had earlier publicly announced that their mission was to negotiate the legalization of all political parties and the broadening of the amnesty.

In another step towards liberalization, a special committee of the Ministry of Justice has reportedly finished its study of a proposal to abrogate the law authorizing the Government to fine or jail dissidents without trial.

The Roman Catholic news agency Logos reported in Madrid today that, according to the proposal, jurisdiction over administrative sanctions would be transferred to ordinary courts.

With the appeal for amnesty spreading, the Madrid evening newspaper, *Informaciones*, said today: "It seems that there is already a consensus between the Suárez Government and the democratic opposition about the need to set political prisoners free as soon as possible. It would not be surprising if the Cabinet took up the question of amnesty at its meeting this week."

On pressure to legalize the



Mr Jenkins signs his name as President of the EEC Commission for the first time after taking the oath at the European Court of Justice.

## Tributes at EEC to Mr Jenkins

Continued from page 1

policy could "serve the common good in providing stable supplies of food at reasonable prices as well as stable markets for an efficient European agricultural system".

Discussing growing divergence of the economies of the member states, Mr Jenkins said that it was no answer to ask "the strong to become less strong, and less effectively managed". The Community had no business promoting an "equality of weakness".

Speaking for the Parliament's Conservative group, Sir

Nevertheless, Mr Jenkins went on, the willingness of the strong to help the weak, provided the latter were prepared to help themselves, was one of the distinguishing features of the Community. The larger the EEC became, the easier it became to neglect its weak areas. This could ultimately lead to its destruction.

Of those countries which could be counted on to sustain justice for all, individual freedom and intellectual integrity, the EEC accounted for about half. What hope was there for humanity, Mr Jenkins asked, if these countries, among "the richest and certainly among the most favoured and talented populations of the globe", could not learn to live together?

Speaking for the Parliament's Conservative group, Sir

Peter Kirk described Mr Jenkins as "a very great European". The new Commission was a "formidable team" from which much was expected. Other speakers covering the spectrum from Christian Democrat to Communist, echoed this warm endorsement of the abilities of Mr Jenkins and his colleagues.

Mr Jenkins is to make a more detailed statement of Commission policy when he addresses the Parliament in February. Speaking for the Conservatives of the Nine, Mr Anthony Crosland, the Foreign Secretary, and President of the EEC's Council of Ministers, tomorrow will outline to the Parliament a programme of work he hopes to see completed over the next six months.

Parliamentary report, page

## Berlin check on Bonn mission visits

From Gretel Spitzer

Berlin, Jan 11

Relations between the two German states were put to a new test today when East German authorities began to check and in most cases turn back East German visitors to the West German mission in East Berlin.

In addition to the usual guards, policemen were posted in front of the mission. They stopped East Germans on their way in and told them that they could enter only by permission of the East German Foreign Ministry.

Herr Günter Gaus, the head of the West German mission, informed Bonn and then called on the East German Foreign Ministry to point out that the East German interference was bound to lead to a deterioration in relations.

In Bonn, Dr Michael Kohl, the East German permanent representative, saw Herr Hans-

Jürgen Wischniewski, the Minister of State for German Affairs, to protest against the measure.

Herr Hermann Scherf-Völkerhausen, vice-president of the Bundestag, who called on Herr Gaus today, said that the measure was a flagrant breach of the Helsinki document. The West German mission had contributed to the normalization of relations between the two German states since it took up work two and a half years ago, he told reporters.

Herr Gaus told reporters that he had complained to the East German Government already in December after noticing that visitors were occasionally subjected to controls.

Last year several dozen East German visitors a day were calling on the West German mission, in many cases applying for permission to move to West Germany.

The growing number of these applications has been a matter of grave concern for the East

## Farm Commissioner makes London his first stop

From David Cross

Brussels, Jan 11

Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, the newly appointed European Commissioner for agriculture, is to make London his first port of call as he prepares for the two most urgent issues facing the Community—the spring farm price review and fisheries negotiations.

Mr Gundelach, who arrives in London tomorrow, will meet Mr John Silkin, the Minister of Agriculture, and Dr David Owen, Minister of State at the Foreign Office responsible for European affairs. The main aim of the talks will be to discuss strategy for the forthcoming farm price and fisheries negotiations among the Nine.

Mr Silkin has made it clear in recent weeks that he favours freezing Community farm prices in the coming year and that he will continue to resist any Community attempts to devalue the so-called "green pound", the unit in which British farm prices are expressed. Devaluing the green pound would push up British food prices and could in Mr Silkin's view, jeopardize the Government's social contract with the trade unions.

On the fisheries issue, Dr Owen will be looking for fresh progress in the present Community negotiations with non-

member countries like Norway and Iceland, as well as a solution to the share-out of fish resources among the Nine in the Community's new 200-mile zone.

Negotiations on farm prices promise to be particularly difficult with consumer-oriented member states like Britain and West Germany probably seeking a virtual freeze and producer states like France and Ireland pushing for an average rise of at least 6.5 per cent.

Preparatory work already carried out by farm officials in the Commission suggests that farmers would need average rises of between 5 and 6 per cent to compensate them for cost increases in recent months.

Meanwhile, Britain's farming organisations, led by the National Farmers' Union, have been quick off the mark in making their presence felt with Mr Gundelach. In a long meeting in Brussels shortly after his appointment, Mr Henry Plumbe, the NFU president, called for "resolute and vigorous action" to overcome the "formidable and complex problems" confronting member governments in the farm sector.

In a short reply published in Brussels today, Mr Gundelach said he had taken "careful note" of various points made by the NFU, which included an appeal for forthcoming price rises to take account of the substantial rise in agriculture costs during the past year.

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## THE ARTS

## Original nightclub show



Arthur Lismer: Moon River, Georgian Bay, 1931

## Fresh from the wilderness

Men and women who emigrated to Canada at the beginning

of this century usually went in search of adventure, fortune, and, above all perhaps, freedom from restriction—the restrictions of moribund conventions and confined spaces.

Canadian painters of that period, however, were encouraged to ape dated European conventions, and to baffle up their infinite and emphatic hunters' landscape into pastoral tone-paintings. Inevitably a mood of rebellion developed, and a group, who later called themselves the Group of Seven, set out to look at their country afresh and develop a style which would honour its wildness and beauty. To judge from the exhibition of their work at the Canada House Gallery, which opens today and runs until February 27, their shared stylistic influence was a kind of optimistic expressionism. The excited brush strokes and vivid paint do not dramatize nature in order to express man's dark passions; rather they are used as a means of describing a landscape that is already so dramatic and so blatantly technicoloured under the northern light, that only a joyously fervid response could possibly convey its impact.

Miss Peled is clearly, if she wants, going to be a star. Miss Evans, a statuesque black woman, has an enunciation that could crack a crystal glass and leave it glad. Miss Plimpton (of *Hair* repute) remains adorably remote, and Miss Swados herself looks and sounds like a wayward genius. But the men are fine too, as are Judith Fleicher on the piano and William Milbizer handling percussion. For anyone wanting a show that is different, involved and engaging, and yet, on its own special terms, quite clearly cabaret, this is the show for you. I adored it. New York Times News Service.

Clive Barnes

## Paddy Kitchen

so, then perhaps they are sensing an essence, an invigoration, that the Seven wished to convey; and they may be assured that this quality has been honoured in Canada by most enlightened patronage.

In 1953, Robert and Signe McMichael started to build

home out of materials rescued

from old barns and houses,

hoping thus to make a suitable

background for the Canadian

art which they wished to collect.

A painting by Thomson

built the Studio Building in

Toronto where Thomson and

others worked) organized two

painting trips through the

forests of Algoma. He and

three others rented a caboose,

and they were shunted from

one part of the territory to

another by passing freight

trains.

Out of these various expedi-

tions, and the activities at

Studio Building, grew the first

exhibition by the Group of

Seven in Toronto in 1920.

Their aim was to create a

unique Canadian tradition,

found on their belief that

“must grow and flower in

the land before the country

will be a real home for the

people”. It would be interest-

ing to know how would be emi-

grants visiting Canada House

now, react to their work. Do

the thick “grazed” paint that

represent the vitality of rush-

ing water, the gleam-and-slide of

sun on snow, the autumns that

seem to be pink, green, ochre,

red, orange, but never sun-

ble gold, still seem like a

breathe of fresh cultural air? If

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It includes the work of nine

painters (the Seven plus Thom-

son and a later addition, A. J.

Casson), none of whom—from

this showing—is a major artis-

tic figure, and all of whom seemed

to work best on a small scale in

the open air. Most of them are

represented by a single large

work and several smaller ones,

the former being careful stu-

died paintings in which water-

falls tend to rigidify and trees

become artistic rather than

expressive. But if one moves

closely in front of the three

dozen or so small paintings

(usually under a foot square),

they do have an extremely

powerful effect. F. H. Varley's

stormy versions of *Georgian Bay*; A. Y. Jackson's *Agawa River* where the wood panel

gleams between the painted green and yellow reflections;

Frank Johnston's trees behind *Mouse Pond*;

Lawren Harris's clouds—white

paint squashed like crushed

ribbon; Arthur Lismer's *Moon River* where a pine has a

trunk of emperor purple;

Frank Carmichael's verdant

*Spring Garland*; A. J. Casson's austere village, *Norval*; Tom

Thomson's birch trunks casting

heliotrope *Snow Shadows*; and

J. E. H. MacDonald's *Eve's Red* apples in his *Artist's Home*

and *Orchard*, all combine to

attract the onlooker with a pow-

erful spirit of place. And the

last two painters in particular

were extremely skilful in

manipulating intense energy

and almost-impossibly-glorious

colours within a very small

area.

All the paintings are dis-

played in conventionally small

frames. A postcard shows a

few of them hung, unframed

and close together, on the

weathered boards in one of the

McMichael galleries. I would

judge they probably look better

that way. They are, above

everything, fresh; as though

the artists had returned from

Algonquin Park or Algoma

with their sketch boxes only

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## A ruined life

Eleanor Marx

BBC 2

## Alan Coren

There is an unsettling obverse

to Cyril Connolly's dictum that

the pram is the halway that is

the enemy of promise, and that is,

of course, that the promise is

the enemy of the pram. Who

would choose to be the off-

&lt;p

## SPORT

Football

## Wimbledon beaten by heart-breaking goal from the penalty spot

By Keith Macklin  
Middlesbrough. Wimbledon 0. Brian Wimbledon, who still recognises no class barriers between the Southern League and the first division, reluctantly, angrily, and controversially went out of the FA Cup last night. After stemminig a tide of continuous but orthodox high ball surges from Middlesbrough, Wimbledon were finally broken by that most heartbreaking of circumstances, a goal from the penalty spot.

Such decisions are always debatable. They become more so when the pitch is a carpet of snow, players slither in all directions, and a forward breaking into the penalty area is looking for a goal by one means or another. Indeed, when a strong winged dove beyond Tilley's tackle, his Middlesbrough colleague, McAndrew, hugged him as if the goal had already been scored. Seconds later, it was Armstrong hitting the leather-foot shot on the gallant Guy.

It was Guy, the spectacular hero of two seasons ago against Leeds, who had saved Wimbledon once again with a series of splendid stops. The first-time volley by McAndrew, was of the back-breaking variety that won him plaudits against Leeds but, strangely, no offers from league clubs.

It would be gross unfair, however, to suggest that the client had held out against a Middlesbrough tide. Strong central defenders in Donaldson and Edwards, and first challengers from every member of the Southern League side, had frustrated Middlesbrough's attacks. To be fair, to Middlesbrough in their turn, the snow-covered pitch was not conducive to smooth, streamlined passing, and the weather conditions provided considerable problems.

In order to be completely just to Middlesbrough, it must also be said that Wimbledon provided nothing of an attacking nature until the last 10 minutes when the score was 0-0.



Hinchliffe surprises the League champions by shooting Crystal Palace into the lead at Selhurst Park last night.

## Liverpool once again forced to deal with a familiar situation

By Norman Fox

Football Correspondent

Crystal Palace 2. Liverpool 3

Liverpool's sluggish power that relevance drives them through crises, overcame another in FA Cup third round replay at Selhurst Park last night. Crystal Palace at first lived with them; later led them; but in the end were beaten more thoroughly than the score suggested.

Although Wimbledon were bitterly disappointed at their defeat, the manager, Alan Bates, put a diplomatic face on the defeat. "Auston," he said, "had made the most of the tackle." He said, studiously avoiding any use of the word "div'e". Mr Bates graciously conceded that Middlesbrough's pressure may have earned them the goal but pointed out that Wimbledon's best hope of survival to fight another day had been to defend strenuously.

The Middlesbrough camp, understandably, there was no doubt that the penalty award had been a fair one. Auston himself declared that not only had he been tripped by Tilley, but he had also been sandwiched between two defenders.

Middlesbrough's manager, Jack Clegg, who has a gift of making a few words go a long way, said: "I am glad that one is over and behind us. It was a clear

it would be gross unfair, however, to suggest that the client had held out against a Middlesbrough tide. Strong central defenders in Donaldson and Edwards, and first challengers from every member of the Southern League side, had frustrated Middlesbrough's attacks. To be fair, to Middlesbrough in their turn, the snow-covered pitch was not conducive to smooth, streamlined passing, and the weather conditions provided considerable problems.

In order to be completely just to Middlesbrough, it must also be said that Wimbledon provided nothing of an attacking nature until the last 10 minutes when the score was 0-0.

of Fulham's discomfort that two of their players, Evanson as well as Marsh, had their names taken, and of the generally rugged nature of the play on both sides. That Evanson had to spend eight minutes on the touchline nursing a bad injury by a vicious kick. A goalless half seemed the only possible reflection of the game thus far when Swindon suddenly scored twice on the stroke of half-time. First Anderson hit home, or rather missed home, after Moss had beaten off Fulham with a magical run on the byline, and then Syrett ran on to a ball from Stroud and got enough sway on it as Peyton came out to persuade it past Slough's reach.

Swindon could have gone three up directly from the second half kick off, but Syrett, put through by Anderson, hit the wrong side of the post with all the time and command he had in the circumstances, rigidly deserved their place in the FA Cup fourth round. An unpleasant flurry of fist-fights in the penalty area was a commentary to his own non-involvement. The second half brought two sharp shots from Thear and one from Kidd, all competently saved by Osborne, but at the other end Albion had nothing that was valid to offer. Alert goalkeeping by Hammond

delayed Liverpool's second goal until after the hour. He had successfully dived to a strong shot by Callaghan, whose industry was crucial to Liverpool's commendable stickiness, but when Keegan elusively dodged in from the wing, confusing Evans, goalkeeping skill was useless. Keegan turned a pass into the goalmouth, and Hammond could do nothing when Heighway took the ball, casually looked for the simplest opening and side-footed the ball home from corner.

The tone changed, Liverpool had quelled the flow and for the 25 minutes until half-time they made progressive gains. Keegan was especially productive, either deep behind Fairclough, substituting for Tracy, or searching out chances in the penalty area. A long pass regularly left Liverpool's midfield to reach Heighway and Fairclough, who became more of a problem for Palace's defence and should have been more careful for sloppiness shortly after half-time.

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PARLIAMENT, January 11, 1977

## Mr Jenkins sees EEC at junction of generations: Community's task not to invoke history but to make it

European Parliament  
Luxembourg

If the European Community was not careful it might be the young who would yawn at Europe and only their elders who would remember its great message, Mr Ray Jenkins, President of the European Commission, told the European Court of Justice in his speech to the European Parliament when he presented the members of the new Commission who were sworn in at a ceremony in the European Court of Justice in the

European was at a potentially dangerous junction of generations, Mr Jenkins said. It was their duty not to invoke history but to start once again to make it; not to praise former men by looking back at the scaffolding of the half-finished building and drinking toasts to those who laid the foundations so well. The best tribute was not to praise them but to earn the right to a place with the job and add at least another storey to the building.

We cannot (the said) live indefinitely on the triumphs of half a generation, he said. The young will ensure that the idea of Europe means little to the hearts of the young and is only an evocative evening memory in the minds of the middle aged and the old.

The European Commission of Europe into the lives of its people. To underpin this public impact they must endeavour to end the growing divergence of the member states. It was not part of their business to promote stability of

Europe but to make it fit for the target date for direct elections in Europe to be missed.

Mr Jenkins began by saying this was both an intimidating and moving occasion for him. Over a long span in national politics he had devoted much of his energies and inventiveness to the cause of European unity. He had done so instinctively because he felt it in his bones to be the most worthwhile cause to which a European citizen could apply himself.

He had been instrumental in helping to fortify this instinctive belief with the intellectual cement of seeing in detail how few problems any of them were able to solve on a purely national basis.

He was the first president from a country which was not, alas, present at the creation of the original Six.

Britain may still in some ways (he said) appear remote from the heart of Europe. But Britain is now developing a part of the Community, the division confirmed by an overwhelming public vote 19 months ago. It was the most recent great popular victory won by the European cause. That should not be forgotten either in Britain or elsewhere.

I do not, however, intend to be a British president. I intend to be a European president. I do not, of course, wish to deny my national origins. Anybody who attempted to do that would be a narrow man, with a limited vision of Europe. We should, however, be foolish men, particularly at a time when the desire for local cultural identification erupting within national states but in no way necessarily contradicting to the broader European concept, is leading on a fresh front, throughout many of the Community countries.

We are all of us in large part a product of our national cultural, linguistic, and political background. That is one reason we are able to think about the richness and diversity of Europe. As a result, we all want our countries to benefit from the success of the

Community.

But here we are at a delicate hinge. To wish to benefit from the success of the Community is a good idea, but when you do that it becomes a narrow cause. It is to be hoped that, in the climate they had brilliantly defended the cradle. Essentially they had had to live in winter quarters.

He did not yet feel any benign stirring of the breezes of spring when he had to break out of the winter quarters. That is what that time was very close upon them.

Nor are the omens necessarily unpropitious (he said). The member states have recently gone too much their own way. They cannot possibly co-operate themselves and impose the CAP. But I believe we can best do this (he continued) by showing clearly that it can serve the common good in providing stable supplies of food at reasonable prices as well as stable markets for an efficient European agriculture.

The previous Commission under the dedicated leadership of M François-Xavier Ortoli had had to work for three quarters of its mandate under the pall of the most discouraging economic weather which they had known for a generation. In climate they had brilliantly defended the cradle. Essentially they had had to live in winter quarters.

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The logic of working together has not clearly emerged. In 25 years up to the end of 1976 were among the most stable, prosperous and hopeful in the long history of this Continent. But there was a paradox about this achievement. It had been achieved so successfully that we take ourselves as a Community. Our own attitude is a prerequisite for the reactions of others.

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The Commission must also work most closely with the Parliament. No doubt they would have disputed but they were on the same side in the battle to secure the lead in relations with the Parliament and to establish close relations with its political groups.

We are a coalition Commission, as is wholly right (the continued).

At least at the present stage of

development, I shall therefore need to be a coalition rather than a president. I shall be a president only for the unity of Europe.

He attached the highest importance to the prospect of direct elections. Europe with a political dimension, he said, was the first with which the European movement had advanced to a advance by mainly economic means. It was concerned with the hearts of men and women and not merely with the management of the economy. (he said) manage the packages well as we have mostly but not invariably done in the past, but let us never forget the purpose and the objectives.

He would like that our duty today is to make it clear that we have to start once again to make it, not to praise famous men by sitting idly on the scaffolding of the half-finished building and drinking toasts to those who laid the foundations so well. The best tribute was not to praise them but to earn the right to a place with the job and add at least another storey to the building.

We cannot (the said) live indefinitely on the triumphs of half a generation, he said. The young will ensure that the idea of Europe means little to the hearts of the young and is only an evocative evening memory in the minds of the middle aged and the old.

The European Commission of Europe into the lives of its people. To underpin this public impact they must endeavour to end the growing divergence of the member states. It was not part of their business to promote stability of

Europe but to make it fit for the target date for direct elections in Europe to be missed.

Mr Jenkins began by saying this was both an intimidating and moving occasion for him. Over a long span in national politics he had devoted much of his energies and inventiveness to the cause of European unity. He had done so instinctively because he felt it in his bones to be the most worthwhile cause to which a European citizen could apply himself.

He had been instrumental in helping to fortify this instinctive belief with the intellectual cement of seeing in detail how few problems any of them were able to solve on a purely national basis.

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For the target date for direct elections in Europe to be missed would be a major setback. The responsibility for any country which would be heavy and damaging.

The election of the Parliament would not in itself give greater legal power. It would have

to be a long and arduous process.

The best contribution the new Commission could make towards this beneficial transition, which would make a dramatic divide in the four years, was to be a powerful contribution to the stability of the European Community.

It is to be hoped that our duty today is to make it clear that we have to start once again to make it, not to praise famous men by sitting idly on the scaffolding of the half-finished building and drinking toasts to those who laid the foundations so well. The best tribute was not to praise them but to earn the right to a place with the job and add at least another storey to the building.

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Mr Jenkins began by saying this was both an intimidating and moving occasion for him. Over a long span in national politics he had devoted much of his energies and inventiveness to the cause of European unity. He had done so instinctively because he felt it in his bones to be the most worthwhile cause to which a European citizen could apply himself.

He had been instrumental in helping to fortify this instinctive belief with the intellectual cement of seeing in detail how few problems any of them were able to solve on a purely national basis.

For the target date for direct elections in Europe to be missed would be a major setback. The responsibility for any country which would be heavy and damaging.

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It is to be hoped that our duty today is to make it clear that we have to start once again to make it, not to praise famous men by sitting idly on the scaffolding of the half-finished building and drinking toasts to those who laid the foundations so well. The best tribute was not to praise them but to earn the right to a place with the job and add at least another storey to the building.

We cannot (the said) live indefinitely on the triumphs of half a generation, he said. The young will ensure that the idea of Europe means little to the hearts of the young and is only an evocative evening memory in the minds of the middle aged and the old.

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Bernard Levin

# Enough of this crew: are there not ten just men to scupper the lot?

"Sometimes" says the disgruntled man in the Thurber cartoon to his wife, "the news from Washington makes me think that you and your brother Ed are in charge." And sometimes the news from Westminster makes me think that Mr Callaghan, Mr Healey, Mr Foot, Mr Hattersley and the Labour Party's NEC are in charge, together with a rudimentary simulacrum of Mr Mulley, created in a clandestine laboratory by a mad scientist obsessed by the challenge inherent in the sheer difficulty of doing such things and unwilling even now to admit that it cannot be done.

But is there not something fascinating and hilarious, amid the sheer awfulness, on the one hand and the rage provoked by the knowledge that it is our country that these clowns are destroying on the other, in the limitless series of *cacochearies* that now passes for government? There was widespread comment, when Parliament finally reeled away for the Christmas recess, to the effect that the break would enable our leaders to straighten out at any rate some of the sub-messes being dragged like trawls behind the principal ones, to reinvigorate themselves sufficiently to face, if not to solve, the problems piling inexorably up like waves, to do something, or even anything, to make the Prime Minister's farcical competency less obviously inexplicable on any hypothesis other than one postulating a total encephalopathy.

And what has happened? Things have actually managed to get worse! The nerveless folly that has been running through the Cabinet like the influenza has now broken into a gallop; indeed, there is powerful evidence that the horses have altogether bolted.

Take Mr Hattersley, for instance. Only yesterday he was spreading the buster on himself with a spurious largeness to hold two tons at a time, and leaping, thus unbuttoned, into the centre of the stage, to tell the nation that, thanks to his cunning, negotiating skill, relentless devotion to the cause of the family shopping-basket and generally overwhelming claim to be the next Prime Minister but one, the price of bread was about to fall so fast; and so far that every shop in the land, from the big-

gest supermarket to the tiniest one-man bakery, would be paying the customers enormous sums of money to come and take the stuff away, and even providing wheelbarrows to enable them to do so. Nay, Jack Cade himself could hardly have promised more:

There shall be in England seven halpeny loaves sold for a farthing, the poorest man shall have ten bobps; and I will make it a felony to drink small beer. All the realm shall be in common, and when I am king there shall be no master; all shall be equal and none of my score; and I will apparel them all in livery, that they may agree like brothers, and worship their lord.

And then? Why, then he starts to blast that it wasn't his fault, that it's all the doing of the delivery-men and their union, that if we will all hang on a bit longer and be ready to starve ourselves to death by way of protest just as soon as he gives the word it will all come right. Yet is it not the job of a minister to prevent or avoid the kind of perfectly foreseeable chaos that Mr Hattersley has created? Could not the attitude and intentions of the delivery-men have been ascertained in advance? What do we suppose we pay him £1,000 a year for?

But the reason I draw attention to this fiasco is not just that I want to besmirch Mr Hattersley; it is to offer further evidence that the disintegration of the Government is proceeding at an accelerating pace, and that Mr Callaghan's assurance that there will be no general election in 1977, should that assurance be struck with a blunt instrument (Mr Shore's head, perhaps) would now give off a hollow sound. And much the same conclusion must be drawn from the activities of several of Mr Hattersley's colleagues.

There is Mr Foot. Never mind his views for the moment; there will be time enough to consider them. But is there anything to match, for ineptitude, his conduct as Leader of the House of Commons? That, of course, is a question that could have been asked ever since he got the job; but it must be asked rather more urgently today in the light of the revelations about the Rent (Agriculture) Act, passed and promulgated in a form which does not correspond with what Parliament

has now broken into a gallop...

ment enacted. And why? Because, as Mr Hugh Rossi (who raised the matter) pointed out, an amendment which had come back from the Lords, and which was accepted by the Government, was put before the House of Commons in a form that was gibberish, and in that form had been "passed". And I put that word in quotation marks because in fact the House of Commons did not even see, let alone discuss, the item in question; Mr Foot was busy using the guillotine (it was only parliamentary democracy that was involved, after all), and he can hardly be expected to bother with seeing that Parliament passes measures that make no sense. But he was hired to see that Parliament passes measures that make sense, and if he cannot even attend to an entirely fiscal and simple matter like that, is it any wonder that the parliamentary bus which carries all his job but which requires genuine busk, is visibly collapsing?

Meanwhile, the NEC, fresh from insisting on the insertion into the Labour Party administrative machine of a man cheerfully and implacably determined to bring into existence a form of society that would make all such machinery, and indeed political parties, and parliament itself, unnecessary (from much of the talk about Trotskyites, anybody would think that Trotsky was some kind of democrat), are now demanding the abolition of the Second Chamber (preparatory, no doubt, to abolishing the First), and I have no doubt that Mr Callaghan will respond to this in much the same way as he responded to the previous NEC proposal to nationalize the banks and insurance companies. That is, he will be heard muttering to himself

for an hour or two, towards the end of which a few phrases will become coherent and audible. From these we shall learn that the proposal is, of course, perfectly right and proper, and no member of the Labour Party could seriously dissent from it, but the press of intended legislation—devotion, you know—does make it difficult to see how it could be put in hand immediately, and then again, a good deal of discussion and consultation is essential before any legislation could be devised at all, so that on the whole, and of course with the warmest expressions of good will towards the proposal, which he certainly hopes and intends to see carried through in due course it really will have to wait.

And for that we saw Harold Wilson pass, and welcomed a man whom we thought could at any rate be expected to know what principles were, even if he did not much go in for acting by them! But expediency and presentation, forms of words and whisperings off-stage, seeing of this group against that to preserve a spurious balance, selling the country short to buy a few more hours of office—this is what we have got still, and are likely to have until we finally clear out this Government, from its leaders to its lowest understrapper, and instead find, or at any rate seek, people who will turn their attention with the utmost urgency to the increasingly necessary labour of fumigating the Augen Stables, before facing the appalling task of cleansing them.

An honourable Labour MP, concerned both at the further cuts in expenditure on Britain's defence and at the reinforcement of his concern by the protests of the others of staff, demands, reasonably enough, that the House of Commons shall be given an account of what they said and said: "I am not prepared to accept assurances from the Defence Minister, Mr Fred Mulley"; as far as I can see, nobody but me has even noticed the inescapable implication of his words, let alone been aroused by it. Nor is that really surprising: Parliament is not seriously expected to believe what it is told by the Government, and there is no reason to suppose that it does. But is that not in itself matter for concern? And matter, too, for demanding an end to the degradation, the broken will, the helpless funk-

ing with anything that can keep going the pretence that the Government knows what it is doing and even what it is going to do?

"We got it wrong, but we are getting it right," squealed Mr Healey only the other day, going on to tell much the same tale over the latest prop shod under this country by kind and generous allies and helpers who will shortly receive the reward usually considered appropriate in such circumstances by this Government and governing party, which is to say, for their generosity coupled with a demand for more of it. As Lord Carrington pointed out when the IMF loan was accepted, "We have been forced to do what we have done, and might well look out even more forcefully now that yet another support for the pound has been arranged in the form of yet another massive handout, nothing has changed in the condition of Britain—in her ability to produce enough to pay for bills, in the condition of her industries, her management, her labour-force, in her attitudes to herself and her place in the world, in her recognition of the real dangers and evils that threaten her. We are exactly the same country as we have been, except that we are now more thousands of millions of pounds in debt."

Enough of igniting terrible dangers in the hope that the country can be prevented from noticing them long enough for those who ignore them to creep back into office. Enough of the whole pack of them—Mrs Williams as well as Mr Benn, Mr Mason as well as Mr Shore, Mr Dell as well as Mr Crossland. This must be the year in which 10 just men are found in Sodom, 10 men in the Parliamentary Labour Party who will vote to bring the Government down without first making sure that there is no danger of their succeeding in doing so.

If it be now, 'tis not to come; if it be not to come, it will be now; if it be not now, yet it will come; the readiness is all. Are there really not 10 men on that side of the House of Commons to speak for England?

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Self-help in action: the voluntary group Contact brings comfort to pensioners.

## Let the welfare state help those who help themselves

Thirty years ago the welfare state soared like a phoenix out of the ashes of the Second World War. To many it is symbolized as the dawn of a new era, a panacea for all evils with benefits for all. Even if it may not have quite fulfilled all expectations, none the less it has satisfied a wide area of need and provided services to a large number of people. But as it developed it started to encroach on a number of points in our daily lives, so much so that an increasing number of people are becoming dependent on support from "the welfare".

It cannot determine their own destiny without outside help. The main function of a welfare state is to provide health care, a safety net for social caseworkers, and special provisions for those who can no longer look after themselves through physical or mental disability. The state provision has increased into more areas of our daily lives, it has robbed people of any logical reason as to why they should feed for themselves. Independence and initiative have been sapped, weakening the character. Many have now lost any sense of obligation either to themselves or to others. As a result of shifting the load of responsibility from family to state shoulders, people have become more inclined to opt out. By diverting a sense of obligation towards one's neighbour, the state has undermined the foundations of our society.

This point was made tellingly by Prince Philip in a speech last month, when he pointed out that individual excellence had been undermined down into a world of generalities by the welfare state. For years the WRVS has been contracting its meal services. Our aim should be to expand them. It would be both socially and cost effective for the local authorities to maintain the expense of maintaining a large fleet of vehicles when there are organizations such as Community Transport, run largely by volunteers who maintain their own fleet, for the benefit of the locality. Young people could earn pocket money from the local authority for tackling jobs which grandparents might have done for their full-time paid staff.

Trained models for neighbour-hood care in urban areas are numerous. In a Liverpool ward (population 6,500) 44 voluntary "block" and "street councilors" keep an eye on the 800 old people, the handicapped, and young children at risk. Eleven mothers, employed part-time, coordinate the operation. Those living alone receive at least a weekly visit. Those with special needs benefit from daily contact. In this way local authority services are freed, specialist help being brought only in an emergency. The cost of running this programme is equivalent to the salaries of three trained social workers and administrative support. To shift the responsibility back to the individual and away from the state it would be necessary to turn to some of the 120,000 registered voluntary charities as well as the newer community and neighbourhood groups.

In the mid-sixties the parameters of the welfare state reached their limits. By 1969 local authorities were unable to find sufficient funds to put into effect the provisions of the Children and Young Persons Act. A year later the Chronically Sick and Disabled Act instructed local authorities to find and help the physically handicapped. This has been implemented by only a handful of authorities. Since then there have been numerous official reports recommending increased social provisions and more public expenditure.

At the same time, Britain's 8,000,000 pensioners live longer as a result of improved health facilities, but the domiciliary services they need to keep them out of institutional care are inadequate. Dr Soares, however, after his party's local government election success, claims a big victory for the Social Democratic party. The Socialists collapse under the economic crisis.

Instability could be a suicidal risk all the same for Portugal's Democrats. A young Portuguese historian asked pointedly last month whether it had not been the inability of the country's ruling classes to govern themselves that led to this century, which led to military-backed dictatorships.

Richard Wigg

organizations can then see whether they can take on functions previously exercised by the public bodies. Instead of

the local authority home help service paying the official rates and bringing in women from all over the district, the neighbourhood voluntary groups could recruit local mothers on a part-time basis to look after one or two neighbours. The service would be cheaper and better. There would be no travel costs. Remuneration rates would not be subject to union negotiations and the help given would be by neighbour to neighbour.

If the meals on wheels service were run on a locality basis, recruiting local volunteers to help with preparation and delivery, a more personal and flexible service would result. Local organizations could offer supper as well as lunch, and for the home-bound a seven-day and not just a five-day service could be provided and at less than half the cost.

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This is as much the fault of misguided state philanthropy as the misguided response of government to the clamour from minority groups demanding increased provisions. It is not surprising that successive generations have grown up to believe that government helps those who shout loudest and longest.

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New ways of caring for people without incurring huge public expenditure must be found. So we must look to the family, friends and neighbours to deal with them when they are anti-social, the probation service to reform them. They see the local authority as the housing benefactor, the social services as the all-provider.

The most effective way, therefore, of switching from dependence to independence must be to provide a minimum slice of

Anthony St

The author is Conservative

for Liverpool, Conservative



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## THE FUNDAMENTALS REMAIN

The new safety net scheme for sterling announced from Basle on Monday night is not the millennium. But it is a thoroughly sensible measure to deal with a real though limited problem. It is also something of a modest triumph, both for the Prime Minister who last October publicly proclaimed his intention to secure such an arrangement over the heads of a sceptical, even hostile Treasury and Bank of England, and for constructive international cooperation.

The curse of the sterling balances has been that when they were causing trouble and the pound was weak, as either a cause or a consequence, nothing could be done about them, and that when the pound was strong no one was minded to do anything about them. This deadlock has been broken, partly by the greater realism of government economic policies and partly by the political will and farsightedness of Chancellor Schmidt, President Ford and others who understood and heeded Mr Callaghan's argument that financial stabilization in Britain must proceed.

There is no indisputable historical evidence that the sterling balances—being money held in sterling deposits and short-term sterling assets by foreigners—ever have by themselves caused any economic damage to Britain; and their accumulation and management has at times been a source of both valuable support to the balance of payments and significant invisible earnings of foreign exchange by the City. But the belief that these balances, which could always in theory be withdrawn at short notice, hung like Damocles' sword over the exchange value of the pound was itself a source of nervousness: it tended to magnify the effects of any weakening of confidence in the pound arising from other causes. The sterling balances have also provided a whipping boy for

those who wished to explain away adverse consequences of weak government policies and poor industrial performance. They have also lent a superficial plausibility to the argument that international capitalism (somewhat oddly operating through the management of the national reserves of other, frequently socialist, governments) exercised some official financial veto over the conduct of Britain's domestic affairs when Labour Governments sought to implement their election manifestos.

The immediate removal of any substantial threat to the pound from any switching of sterling reserves held by other countries and the eventual removal of the balances themselves, under the proposed progressive conversion of the balances into British Government securities denominated in foreign currency should help by removing both the nervousness and the excuses for the consequences of wrong policies.

The main justification for the greater strength of sterling now is not the safety net scheme as such, but partly the Government's correction of the alarming trend of monetary policy last summer and partly the correction of exaggerated pessimism last October. But just as it was wrong then to extrapolate the pound's weakness in a straight line to extinction, so it would be wrong now to extrapolate the improving tone on a straight-line to summit uplands.

None of the fundamental problems of the British economy have changed. Indeed, in one important way they are augmented. It appears to be the intention, the Government has been constrained by the creditor governments of the Group of Ten countries putting up the \$3,000m safety net to undertake to convert the existing official balances into foreign currency bonds which will then be repaid in cash within ten years, the United Kingdom will have to be betrayed.

## PRICE FIXING BY TRADE UNION POWER

When the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection was created to usher in the new era of fearless promotion of fair trading practices, consumers were promised vigorous action against anyone who dared trample on their interests. It is, therefore, disappointing to see a minister of the abilities of Mr Roy Hattersley contriving a situation so totally counter to his Whitehall brief.

The spectacle of the small United Road Transport Union quite openly forcing supermarketers to observe prices for bread higher than if consumers were allowed to exercise their free choice is an amazing one. It is largely of Mr Hattersley's own making, given the history of intervention on trade discounts; the responsibility for correcting what the Consumers' Association has told the TUC's general secretary, Mr Len Murray, is an arrogant disregard for consumer interests" rests with the Government.

## SECRET DEATH IN SOUTH AFRICA'S PRISONS

The admission by the South African police yesterday that two more detainees under interrogation have died has led the South African Institute of Race Relations to ask for another judicial inquiry. Fifteen are said to have died in police custody in 1976, and, more boldly, Mr Sonny Leon, a member of the official Coloured Representative Council three weeks ago called for an inquiry by the International Commission of Jurists, indicating that no other judicial investigation would be convincing.

He was right, though the South African Institute quite properly called for the only action the South African Government would consider. The call for an impartial investigation is not new. After the death of Mr Ahmed Timol, for instance, the result of falling by an alleged accident from the tenth floor of a prison window, the International Jurists themselves called for an impartial inquiry. They were of course ignored.

There have been a succession of locally based inquiries into the actions of policemen or

warders in the past ten years, but still the "suicides" of political suspects and prisoners continue, and still no change is made in prison administration or methods—although on a number of occasions judges have imposed fines and even imprisonment on warders or police who were found guilty of behaving improperly—or brutally. The fact that some justice occasionally is done may be obscured by apologists for South Africa as evidence that there is legal restraint over police and warders.

The salient fact is that the deaths in prison continue. The further fact is that the constant excuse of the police that the prisoners took their own lives is itself a clear admission that torture, physical and psychological, is extensively employed, is carried to extreme lengths, and is on an increasing scale. It is evidence that Mr Vorster's Government is unperturbed by the occasional judicial reverses their men suffer, and suggests that the police and the warders' methods are to its liking. The only alternative to such a conclusion is that the police are out of the Government's control.

**JLC housing**  
From Mr Cedric Price

In my letter to the *Times* (January 4) concerning the proposed change in the GLC Architects' Department, I said that the design and construction of houses is viewed as one aspect of housing that the change seems extremely sensible, since it is a reaffirmation of housing as a humane continuous process rather than a product dominated programme. If houses do not by themselves create homes then their sharing of responsibility with others should increase the possibility of a more coherent housing policy with fewer architectural fashion flusters—I forget, are gh rise houses good or bad for these days?

It is worth recalling that the initial housing effort after the war was the responsibility of the Ministry of Health—and was seen as part of a process of establishing national well-being. Healthy people live in cold buildings—the ill live in them.

Though, unfortunately, not surprising, it is depressing to see members of my profession using yet again the delights expressed by past overseas visitors as a measure of the worth of their products. I feel certain the controller of housing could supply a more critical appraisal of their value from present tenants.

The profession does itself a disservice when, as the letter implies, it divorces architectural standards from architectural service.

Yours truly,  
CEDRIC PRICE,  
16 Alfred Place, WC1.  
January 4.

**Ulster reconciliation**  
From The Reverend Adrian Hastings

Sir, Could it be that the Catholic Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise in the political vacuum in Northern Ireland owes something to unease with the peace movement for community reconciliation?

earn an extra \$3,800m or so in balance of payments surpluses over that decade.

If this extra balance of payments surplus on current account is achieved, about a third of 1 per cent of national output that would otherwise have been available each year for investment or consumption at home will be forfeit. This is not in itself a large amount; but even smaller amounts have caused difficulty in the past.

If the extra surplus is not achieved then the repayments of the converted sterling balances will have to be financed by other borrowing abroad; and that other borrowing may or may not turn out to be less onerous than the form of finance provided by the sterling balances themselves. In other words the course on which the Prime Minister has embarked is right, but stony.

The Basle agreement is thus anything but an occasion for relaxation, except perhaps relaxation of tension. It actually increases, albeit modestly, the balance of payments surpluses we shall need to earn over the next ten years; and that cost cannot just be written off as yet another charge against the already heavily ear-marked fruits of the North Sea.

For this reason governments will have to resist not merely the temptation to ease fiscal and monetary restraints on spending, but also the temptation to allow the pound to appreciate too strongly if and when returning confidence and the expected improvement in the current account promotes such a tendency. If something like \$3,800m in foreign exchange is going to be paid off by the mid-80s to pay off converted sterling balances, then extra reserves must be built up to that level over the intervening years. Otherwise Mr Callaghan's successful diplomacy and President Ford's and Chancellor Schmidt's acts of faith will be betrayed.

Mr Lewis refers to Mrs Gandhi's majorities as "tame". Why? Are they any tamer than those of Mr Callaghan or Mr Schmidt? Even Mr Kamath, a Socialist member of the Opposition, has said publicly in India almost in his own words, "I am a dictator because I enhance the power of the Legislature and the Executive—and reduces that of the Courts".

What "the Legislation" in fact does is to restore to the Indian Parliament some—only a fraction of the supremacy which the British Parliament has and curtailed some of the enormous powers of the Indian judiciary which British judges never had. If the British Constitution does not make Mr Callaghan a dictator how does an amended Indian Constitution which still leaves Mrs Gandhi with much lesser powers make her one?

Mr Lewis refers to Mrs Gandhi's majorities as "tame". Why? Are they any tamer than those of Mr Callaghan or Mr Schmidt? Even Mr Kamath would not deny that Indian elections have, so far at least, been free and fair. True it is that there are still a handful of legislators under despotism, but there are none for their political views or their voting record; only for their unextra-constitutional activities.

The infamous Keshavendra Bharat case decided by a majority of seven judges to six the "basic structure" of the Constitution could not be amended by the constitutional processes clearly stated in Article 356 of the Constitution.

What the "basic structure" was, not what the method of amending it should be, they were not pleased to indicate. That is why "the Legislation" makes it clear who has the power to amend the Constitution. It is not the Prime Minister—it is wholly incorrect that she can change it by decree—but Parliament alone with a two-thirds majority. The majority of the judges have been curtailed by their independence safeguarded because their tenures are secure. It is really a step towards dictatorship to transfer power from the nominees of the Chief Executive—which in essence the judges are in all democracies—to the freely elected representatives of the people?

Yours, etc.  
B. K. NEHRU, High Commissioner for India,  
India House,  
Aldwych, WC2.  
January 10.

## The German economy

From Sir Keith Joseph

Sir, One may admire the technical virtuosity of Lord Kaldor's intellectual gymnasium which permits him to acclaimed the Federal Republic of Germany as an example of socialism (January 5), but he clashes at many points with the verifiable facts. Far from putting Germany in the dog house, as Lord Kaldor suggests I should do, I hail it in many ways as an example of rational economic policies.

The avowed policy of the Federal Republic under both parties has been conformity with the market, reliance on the private sector, firm control of the money supply.

I could not do better than refer

Lord Kaldor to a study "Germany through Inflation and Recession: An Object Lesson in Economic Management, 1973-76" by Dr Konrad Zweig which this centre published towards the end of last year.

The author shows how the liberal economic thought accepted by all three German parties com

pared with the monetarist policies of the Central Bank permitted Germany to ride out the recession and world inflation.

If Lord Kaldor could only persuade his Labour Party colleagues to adopt similar policies, I for one would be happy to let him label them

over him he likes.

But so long as he would have us

believe that Germany's prosperity

comes from following his prescriptions, I must respectfully set the record straight.

Yours faithfully,

KEITH JOSEPH, Director,  
Centre for Policy Studies,  
3 Whitehall Street, SW1.  
January 11.

Human society has its perennial mechanisms for reconciling divided groups, the chief of these being the common education of the young and marriage across the divide. The logic of the peace movement is to encourage shared education and mixed marriages, the current discipline of the Catholic bishops of Ireland is to oppose them.

While a hasty mixing of all schools could greatly increase the fears of the community and quite out of the question, could the Church not take the lead in encouraging an openness to interchurch sharing both in school and in marriage? By so doing it would undermine the basic causes of sectarian distrust which its own regulations have hitherto stimulated.

There could be no more authentic contribution in deed as well as in word, to the cause of peace.

Yours,  
ADRIAN HASTINGS,  
80 Bedford Place,  
Aberdeen.  
January 6.

There has recently been correspondence complaining of foreigners buying antiques due to our devaluation. Surely it is even more disturbing when they go for nothing.

Yours faithfully,

J. M. M. KEIL,  
John Keil Limited,  
154 Brompton Road, SW3.  
January 10.

## Amending India's constitution

From the High Commissioner for India

Sir, How good it would be if the cobbler would stick to his last!

I have great respect for Mr Levin's views on Wagner; I have much less for his views on the Indian Constitution. I doubt that he has read any of the 395 Articles of the Constitution or any of the 59 clauses of "the Legislation". I do not write on Wagner; I wish he did not write on the Indian Constitution.

His two articles (January 5 and 6) to which your distinguished newspaper has given such prominent hospitality are *deja vu*. They repeat, accepting as gospel, what Mr Kamath, a Socialist member of the Opposition, has said publicly in India almost in his own words.

This explains no doubt why Mr Levin's vitriol is not matched by Mr Levin's normal verbal elegance.

It is not possible within the confines of a letter to controvert point by point Mr Levin's interpretation of "the Legislation". The thrust, with which alone I shall deal, of Mr Levin's argument—enhanced by your headlines—is that "the Legislation" is designed to make Mrs Gandhi a dictator because it enhances the power of the Legislature and the Executive—and just method of trial.

They have long applauded the valuable contribution which the magistracy makes to the administration of justice. Four years' experience of the operation of the criminal courts, however, has convinced me and the Council of The Law Society, that lay magistrates in general, and stipendiaries in particular, should not be given an exclusive jurisdiction in all charges of petty theft such as shoplifting, or in charges of assault on or obstruction of the police, in indecent assault and importuning.

Whilst a number of such cases

might safely be left to them, there are a significant number in which, because justices tend to like juries, to be case hardened and more legalistic, justice is denied.

The James Committee was established for the purpose of devising means of reducing the expense and congestion in the higher courts. This was largely, if not entirely, a London problem and ignores the problems of delay in the magistrates' courts themselves.

The further restriction now proposed only extends a fundamental weakness in our system of justice, namely that jurisdiction of the courts is based not on the seriousness of any particular case, but, in general, on the amount of money involved.

The two things are not always synonymous. As the James Committee itself observed: "Monetary value is not always a realistic guide to the gravity of the offence."

This is a further step in an all too familiar direction. Once again, expediency becomes a substitute for justice and freedom dies another death.

Yours very truly,

JOYCE PURSER,  
Woodbury,  
Dogsthorpe Road,  
Peterborough.  
January 6.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The right of trial by jury

From The President of The Law Society

Sir, It is too much to hope that the cogenacy and wisdom of your leader of January 6 will influence those who are Hell-bent on restricting the right to trial by jury.

The Bill before Parliament reflects the modern tendency in Whitehall for administrative and economic reasons, to implement the worst and eliminate the best from the reports of Committees. Those tried before magistrates, as The Law Society has repeatedly pointed out, are denied the right vouchsafed in a higher court, of knowing in advance the case they have to meet. The recommendations of the James Committee in this respect are not pursued.

The fundamental weakness of their Report was that they were prepared to recommend reductions in the right to trial by jury, whilst expressly denied by their terms of reference, the opportunity to determine which was the more fair and just method of trial.

They have long applauded the valuable contribution which the magistracy makes to the administration of justice. Four years' experience of the operation of the criminal courts, however, has convinced me and the Council of The Law Society, that lay magistrates in general, and stipendiaries in particular, should not be given an exclusive jurisdiction in all charges of petty theft such as shoplifting, or in charges of assault on or obstruction of the police, in indecent assault and importuning.

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them perhaps to deal with traffic offences of a minor nature.

Even here, though, there would be grave danger of injustice, especially since so much of the evidence in such cases depends solely on the testimony of police officers. Acceptance of your arguments must cast serious doubts on the desirability of the whole system of magistrates' courts. To abolish them, of course, would be inordinately expensive, as they deal with some 96 per cent of all criminal cases in this country, and there is, as I understand it, no distinction between lay and stipendiary magistrates in their criticism.

There is no doubt that the quality and efficiency of magistrates varies considerably, both from bench to bench, and within the membership of each petty sessional division. A similar criticism could be made of the professional judiciary (why else do counsel manoeuvre to have their cases heard by one judge rather than another?)

It is at least arguable that magistrates, who are experienced in weighing the value of evidence presented to them and in assessing the credibility of witnesses and defendants, and who moreover are accustomed to court procedure, may be a little more likely to arrive at the truth than a group of citizens with no experience, qualification or training for the task, who may also be bewildered by the unfamiliar procedure of the crown court.

Is there really any hard evidence on either side to indicate which juries or justices are more honest in their findings?

And though the price of justice is probably not much rubles, it is certainly true that the price of dealing with cases in the crown courts is greatly in excess of disposing of them before magistrates.

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**LAING**  
for tomorrow's  
BUILDING, CIVIL  
& INDUSTRIAL  
ENGINEERING

**SEASON**  
ge career

Your Life (Apollo, etc); and eventually a sequence of characters in his agility and humour. From December when he created a *Agatha Christie* at the Savoy, he involved in a long time under Peter Brook's direction, twice in England, New York, and on an tour. Besuch der Alten, Maurice Corrigan and Again. The deepening economic crisis facing Iran was confirmed by John Gielgud as yesterday when Mr Abdul-Majid Abo Abo, the Minister of State for mid-1960s, the more modest and Planning, said all Higgins in a future imports would be of *My Fair Lady*, obtained through a system of *Midsummer Night's Dream*. He further said that a severe One of his last other countries would mean resuscitation (London, etc). The announcement came in the middle of the visit to Iran by Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade. He has been hoping to expand Britain's £500m exports to the country and to take delivery of crude sold to them directly had violated their agreements and commitments, he said. They had demanded a discount which was immediately rejected.

To meet the crisis the minister disclosed, all the country's future imports would be switched to barter, trading oil for commodities (as practised with the Soviet Union and most Eastern block countries).

Presentation of the coming year budget to Parliament will be delayed for two weeks in order to adjust figures and prepare more realistic measures.

Suppliers of equipment and contractors engaged on many

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, and Abu Dhabi raised prices by 5 per cent.

Iran was already in some financial difficulty before the split in the oil producers' cartel, and the slump in crude supplies has been cutting the oil revenues of the world's second largest producer by \$23m a day compared with a year ago.

Britain is a big supplier of non-defence items, including machinery, steel, pharmaceuticals, and transport equipment (including Chrysler UK cars in kit form for local assembly).

Whether Mr Dell can salvage both existing export orders and expected contracts without taking huge quantities of more expensive oil (Iran to the United Kingdom) seems doubtful.

Government pressure has already been brought to bear on companies like Shell and BP, to protect certain defence contracts by accepting oil above normal needs.

He noted that "it will certainly eliminate any instability (in the exchange markets) that might originate from fluctuations in the levels of sterling balances".

Secret negotiations have taken place over the past month, culminating in a quick visit to London by Mr Yeo over the weekend and the meeting in Basle during the past two days of central bank governors. The first substantive discussions on the outline of the agreement took place immediately after the British Government had firmly decided what set of new economic policies to promote in connection with the application for a \$3,900m (about £2,300m) loan from the IMF.

No agreement on the balances would have been possible without firm support and a large financial commitment by the United States. The Americans wanted the agreement to avoid

any guarantee of a fixed exchange rate for the pound.

It also had to be formulated in such a way that it would not set any precedent that could inspire some large foreign holder of dollars to press the Americans at some future date to adopt a similar scheme for at least partial funding of the vast volume of current foreign dollar balances.

Congressional leaders took the view that the United States could not participate at this time in any long-term loan to Britain in addition to its involvement through the general arrangement to borrow to provide currencies to the IMF to finance the loan to Britain.

It was agreed at the outset that the United States would have to provide some sort of short-to-medium-term credit to support British reserves, rather than directly assume any part of the official sterling holdings by means, for example, of directly offering dollars to sterling holders or United States Treasury notes.

The Americans also took the view that if the problem was to be solved then some funding arrangements for the sterling balances were needed in addition to providing the British

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## Iran imposes barter rules for imports in face of declining revenue from oil

# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS



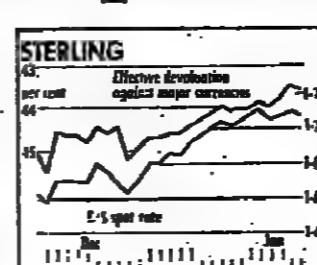
## Heavy sales reverse pound's gains

By Our Economics Staff

Heavy selling of the pound yesterday afternoon wiped out all the gains which sterling had made overnight in New York on the strength of the agreement in Basle to deal with the sterling balances.

There was also thought to be signs that the Bank of England was selling pounds for dollars in an effort to replenish its reserves. These were in any case boosted on Monday by the drawing of the first \$1.50m from the loan arranged with the International Monetary Fund.

Markets retreat: Both equities and gilt-edged stocks were at first helped by the sterling agreement. But in both cases, early gains were not held as the pound weakened and it



became apparent that the minimum lending rate was not likely to be cut again on Friday.

Early attention in the fixed-interest market centred on the longer dates and brought rises of up to a full point. But as demand slackened off, most prices fell back and by the close of trading "longs" were only one-quarter ahead. Short

and medium dates finished up to three-eighths higher. The level of trading was reported to be the best for a long time.

The equity market continued to react to the strong gains of recent weeks as profits were taken. The FT Index, 25 up at 10 am, lost ground thereafter and by the close was five points down at 358.6. Dealers said that the earlier selling was comparatively light but that it intensified in mid-afternoon as sterling lost ground.

This reaction comes as no surprise to most market men after the 100 point index rise since late October. Many were

expecting a sharper decline and are looking for prices to continue to fall for several days yet. Next week's trade figures are seen as the next potentially bearish hurdle.

ICI is to close its Oldham, Lancashire, wallpaper factory at the end of this year, accounting for between a quarter and a third of the company's total production of wallcoverings. Some 300 jobs are affected.

This follows an earlier announcement from Reed International, whose Crown subsidiary is Britain's major wallpaper manufacturer, that production is being pared by rather less than 10 per cent.

The smallest of Crown's nine wallpaper mills in Manchester, has been closed and this move together with cutbacks at some of the other mills is resulting in the disappearance of about 400 jobs.

The cutbacks by the two companies come after a steady decline in the wallpaper industry in the past 10 years to which recent pressures on disposable income may well have given a cruel twist.

Reed believes that the overall decline in the wallpaper market may be only 3 to 4 per cent in the past five years, but with major changes as among the various types of covering. Wallpapers' share of the market is put at 30 per cent down, but the vinyl share is thought to be up by around 100 per cent.

Production of "whites"—embossed paper which is then painted—has gone up 77 per cent, Reed believes.

ICI's Oldham closure will take the company out of wallpaper production entirely, but a major sales effort is being made to restore its overall share of the wallcovering market by increasing sales of its vinyls and of a blown polyethylene film, which falls between wallpapers and the vinyl in price.

A medium-range vinyl is usually at least 50 per cent more expensive than a medium-range wallpaper but has a longer life on the wall. The longevity of vinyl is probably one of the factors in shrinking the wallcovering market.

Reed claims that vinyl still account for less than 20 per cent of the wallcovering market, with "whites" accounting for 30 per cent and the rest going to the papers.

The company sees two main causes for wallpaper decline—a swing in public taste to painted walls. Wallpaper is no longer the cheapest method of covering a wall, emulsion paint is now cheaper.

The main reason why the price on price has gone to paint is that raw materials costs for both papers and the vinyl have gone up by some 300 per cent in five years.

There are fears in the industry that the drain on disposable incomes will mean acceptance of a dowdy house by many people for months yet. The standard house market is another gloomy factor, although the trend towards houses improvement instead of moving to a new home could help sales.

ICI said last night that there was some evidence that the market might now have bottomed out and that later this year a slow improvement could begin.

Derek Harris

From Frank Vogl

Washington, Jan 11.—Mr Edwin Yeo, the United States Under-Secretary of the Treasury for monetary affairs, said today that the agreement on the problems of the sterling balances now paved the way for a fundamental long-term solution.

He noted that "it will certainly eliminate any instability (in the exchange markets) that might originate from fluctuations in the levels of sterling balances".

Secret negotiations have taken place over the past month, culminating in a quick visit to London by Mr Yeo over the weekend and the meeting in Basle during the past two days of central bank governors. The first substantive discussions on the outline of the agreement took place immediately after the British Government had firmly decided what set of new economic policies to promote in connection with the application for a \$3,900m (about £2,300m) loan from the IMF.

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It would appear that the Bank of England will be able

## Japanese plea over backlog orders delays shipbuilding talks

Industrial Correspondent  
Paris, Jan 11

Europe and Japan remained poles apart over measures to deal with the world shipbuilding crisis during several hours of talks held today under the aegis of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The two sides are separated by fundamental differences and there is little prospect of the impasse being resolved. The EEC, however, managed to secure the formal and valuable support of the Spanish, Norwegian and Finnish governments to its proposal, made last month, for a 50:50 sharing of the world market in new ships. Japan has consistently expressed strong opposition to the EEC plan and it was underlined yet again at today's meeting.

Pressure is now building up in Europe for the deployment of effective measures against Japan which last year mopped up 13 million gross tons of orders for sophisticated merchant ship tonnage at Europe's expense. The crunch with Japan could well come next month.

Over the next three weeks there is to be an intensive round of meetings involving Community officials, government representatives and shipbuilding industry leaders from all European countries in a bid to hammer out a coordinated policy to combat the incessant growth of Japan's share of what will be a dwindling market.

During today's meeting of the OECD's working party on shipbuilding, however, the Japanese scored a tactical point by successfully proposing that there should be a more detailed and more regular monitoring of the size of both European and Japanese order backlog. The Japanese, therefore, have successfully delayed discussions,

### In brief

#### House price rises slowed to 1pc in last quarter

claiming that the EEC plan had stalled, no new orders were announced and a clear picture of the overall situation could only be obtained by improved information on the state of order books revised every three months.

On the evidence at present available these are likely to show that Japan has less work in hand than yards in Europe. At the end of September last year, Japanese yards are estimated to have held the equivalent of 1.13 years' work against the 93 years held by member countries of the Association of West European Shipbuilders.

Europe counters the Japanese claim, however, on the ground that these are misleading figures, since Europe's traditional dependence on more sophisticated types of ships taking longer to build explains the discrepancy.

But Japan's bid to delay the next meeting of the working party until after February 20 when new figures covering both new orders and the work load could be presented was frustrated by European delegates who insisted that the next meeting should take place on February 8.

#### November sales higher than forecast

The British retail sales volume index for November was 109.3, up 1.9 per cent from a month earlier, and up 3.9 per cent from a year earlier, the Department of Industry said yesterday.

The department said the November retail sales suggest a recovery in trade from the fall in retail volume in October.

#### Life assurance

#### premiums rise 18pc

New yearly premiums for life assurance and annuities increased by 18 per cent to £287m in 1976, according to the Life Offices Association.

The association's figures for last year show that single premium policies paid for in the year rose by 43 per cent from £219m to £240m, reflecting a revival in the linked bond market. New sums assured rose by 17 per cent from £28,800m to £33,600m in the year and annuities increased by 22 per cent to £1,200m a year.

#### Record sales of De Beers diamonds

Rome, Jan 11.—Italy's trade deficit widened to 619,000 lire (about £408m) in November, the Government Statistics Bureau reported today.

It compared with a gap of 320,000 lire in October and one of 201,000m in November 1975.

The November gap brought the trade deficit for the first 11 months of 1976 to 4,751,000 lire, compared with a deficit of 1,773,000m in the same period last year.

The November deficit was due to a 667,000m lire gap in petroleum trade, in small part offset by a surplus on the non-oil account of 48,000m lire.

In the 11 months to the end of November, total production totalled 36,105,811 bulk barrels, a rise of 0.49 per cent over the 1975 period. A long, hot summer affected output. However, in November there were two more brewing days compared with 1975. December's figure will be correspondingly lower than in 1975.

London hotels, whose bookings are usually at the lowest level in January, are up by at least 50 per cent. Reasons given are the unusually large number of Continental visitors attending the Boat Show and on shopping visits.

## Leyland hangs on to market lead in face of challenge by Ford

By Ronald Embleton

Ford's Escort and Cortina sales topped the league of most popular cars in Britain last year with sales of 133,000 and 126,000 respectively. With its Capri range in seventh place, the group took 25.25 per cent of total United Kingdom sales during the year.

British Leyland topped the market with 27.4 per cent of sales. Its top selling model was the aging Mini, with just over 81,000.

Leyland, which saw its market share decline from more than 30 per cent in 1975, will be anxiously watching sales returns over the next few months, as it is possible that Ford will replace it as leading manufacturer in sales terms.

Now that Ford is introducing the Fiesta next month it is certain that Escort sales will fall as a result, but it is widely expected that Escort/Fiesta sales combined will erode still further Leyland's market share.

The Fiesta launch marks

Ford's entry to the true mini market and with the Leyland model taking on an increasingly loyal look in the consumer's eyes, Leyland may see Mini sales suffer and the Marina take over as its most popular model range.

Japanese cars last year took 9.4 per cent of the total market, a rise of 0.4 per cent.

While that increase may seem no more than marginal, British manufacturers are worried that it took place in a rising market at a time when Far Eastern importers were subject to an undertaking not to increase their market penetra-

tion. The increased percentage is bound to affect the tone of talks to be held in London later this month between the British and Japanese industries about orderly marketing of Japanese cars this year.

## Hope of peace formula in Rubery Owen strike

After six hours of talks in Birmingham, officials of the main unions at Rubery Owen's Darlaston, Staffordshire, motor component plant agreed that future disputes would be dealt with in the official procedure of the engineering industry. But they admitted at a conference later that they had still to "sell" the deal to their 1,800 members at the factory.

Mr. Moss Evans, national organizer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said arrangements would be made as soon as possible to hold a mass meeting to do this.

Mr. John Owen, managing

director of Rubery Owen, said: "Encouraging progress has been made but there is still a long way to go before we can overcome the crisis facing the company."

Rover drivers strike: All move-

ment of completed cars out of British Leyland's Rover plant at Coventry has been halted by a strike of drivers employed by a Birmingham car delivery company.

The drivers, who work for James Car Delivery, stopped work on Monday in protest against moves by Leyland to change its car delivery arrangements at the Rover plant.

## f10m military radio order for Philips offshoot

An order worth more than £10m for Clansman military radio equipment for an unspecified overseas government has been announced by MEL Equipment, of Crawley, Sussex, a member of the Philips electronics group.

The company says that it has now sold Clansman systems to military customers in Africa, South America and the Middle East, as well as supplying the British Army. MEL declined to identify the £10m-plus customer, but it is believed to be an African country.

This brings the total of Clansman export orders to more than £20m, the company states.

## Agricultural Export Council closure fears

Closure of the British Agricultural Export Council was inevitable unless the Government and industry committed money to it, Lord Glenkinglas, chairman of the council, said yesterday. Meanwhile, British agriculture was losing export business worth thousands of millions of pounds because it had failed to spend as much on promotion as other countries.

Lord Glenkinglas told reporters that West Germany had sent two representatives to 28 agricultural shows in Latin America last year. "The best we have been able to do is to send one chap to one show every six months, and that strained our resources.

"If you go to Brazil you meet 20 Japanese in a little row. They are not doing it for fun: they are getting the business."

The council needed to know about its future by the end of January, Lord Glenkinglas went on. It was worried that the recommendations of the Strutt report about farm exports from Britain, published in May last year, had not been acted upon.

Business appointments

## London and Manchester picks chairman-elect

Mr. H. L. E. Brown, chief executive of London and Manchester Assurance, is to be made a deputy chairman with the intention that he becomes chairman upon the retirement of Mr. Lewis Whyte next year. Lord Wakehurst continues as a deputy chairman.

Mr. Ron Weedon has been made managing director of British Heavy Wireless and Televisions.

Mr. David Kinsella has been appointed an executive director of Nobile Gruosi.

Mr. M. H. Caine and Mr. C. W. Wilby, directors of Bookers' McCoull, have been elected directors of Kieslech (Precision) Electronics.

Mr. R. E. T. Nichols has become a director and chairman of Bank Bridge Group.

Mr. G. W. Howe is to succeed Mr. D. J. Nicolson as chairman and managing director of Palm Line on March 31.

Mr. F. W. Hall has been made a director of Metallurgical Services Ltd. Mr. D. J. Nicolson and Mr. M. A. Sanderson become joint managing director of London & Scandinavian Metallurgical.

Mr. Cyril Gallimore, managing director of Ideal-Standard in the United Kingdom, has been made a vice-president of Ideal-Standard Europe. Mr. Colin Wise and Mr.

Norman Bennett have become joint managing directors to succeed Mr. Gallimore in the United Kingdom. Mr. Wise continues as financial director and Mr. Bennett as commercial director.

Mr. J. M. Smith joins the board of Brownlee.

Mr. K. Jones becomes chief executive and managing director of Metalgesellschaft.

Mr. Donald Crimmins has been appointed managing director of EMU (Australia). Mr. John Kuipers continues as chairman.

Mr. Tom James has succeeded Mr. Nicholas Moss as chairman of William Moss and Sons. Mr. Moss remains on the board.

Mr. G. B. Brown and Mr. P. R. S. Thomas have joined the board of Union Group.

Mr. A. N. G. Dalton, deputy chairman of English China Clays, has been made a director of National Westminster Bank's south-west regional board. Mr. G. Parker chairman, Unilever Management Committee, becomes a director of the bank's north regional board.

Mr. Keith Bridge has become an additional director of C. E. Heath (North America) and has been appointed managing director of C. E. Heath (North American) Reliance Broking.

Mr. Sidney Armstrong has become chairman and Mr. Derek Broadley managing director of Alloys, Castings and Darwins Magnets International.

Mr. David Rawlings has joined the board of Trafalgar Watch.

Mr. A. Lloyd and Mr. P. Richards have been elected directors of Greenstock, Ridd (Life & Pensions) Consultants.

Mr. Roland A. Kjelland has been made executive vice-president of Kaiser Steel Corporation.

Mr. V. M. Walsworth has been appointed managing director of Elbar Industrial. Mr. K. Williams becomes group managing director.

Mr. Sidney Armstrong has become chairman and Mr. Derek Broadley managing director of Alloys, Castings and Darwins Magnets International.

Mr. D. E. Whittingham has been made managing director of an chief executive of Emma Insures (UK). He succeeds Mr. W. S. Hartman, who remained on the board as non-executive chairman.

Mr. Philip E. Beckman is joint chairman of the Seagrim Company as president and a director as well as chairman of the operating committee and member of the executive committee.

Mr. William C. Pierce has been appointed head of Chemicals' petrochemicals and polymers division and a senior vice-president.

Mr. R. M. Carroll is joint director of Decca Communications.

Mr. John Morris-Jones is to join the partnership of Albert E. Sharp.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## The interest rate dilemma



Francis Perkins, chairman of Hogg Robinson: profits growth below market expectations

It seems to be some increase in the authorities' foreign holdings of assets just now. On the other hand, the Bank of England is an evident admittance to eliminate once and for all any official sterilization. In the short term, this is not underpinned by material considerations and the Bank of England, with the arrangements behind it, is prepared to act in the interest of the economy as necessary to achieve its objective.

In consequence foreign currency is piling into gilts, the assumption that the pound is likely to be more stable.

Despite the present low level of institutional liquidity, for instance, to £200m, the gap expected to be not fully sold out, tomorrow.

There are sound reasons for this. Interest rates are slow. The 1976/77 funding requirement may already be met. Next year's requirements will still be substantial.

Interest rates drop now, but next year's requirements will be similar. It may be harder to buy gilts, it may be harder to buy bonds when rates level off.

It is better to sell steadily on the market.

Second, the sterling balance sheet will either have to throw the towel or remain a substantial minority shareholder in Golden Hope in the new plan. While the latter would provide Gengting with some potential nuisance value, £5m is a lot to pay for the privilege.

Johnson-Richards

Paying the penalty

Johnson-Richards's misfortune in making too much profit in the first half of last year has continued to dog its performance in the first half of this year, with margins held down to compensate for the fact that the United Kingdom subsidiaries exceeded their reference level a year ago. It was not until August that the group obtained a respectable price rise to compensate for rising costs.

So, although the United Kingdom subsidiaries have been operating at maximum capacity, and first-half volume was some 10 per cent up on the corresponding period, United Kingdom profits are sharply down.

Meanwhile IT has at last broken even on its European operations.

The group seems unlikely to achieve much more than £5m for the full year and the shares, down 1p to 74p yesterday, are on a prospective p/e of 34, only fractionally below the sector average.

Meanwhile, the prospective yield of 12.5 per cent is not extraordinary and, given IT's tendency to over-ampify the movements in the timber cycle, competitors like Mowagie, Meyer or Mallinson might offer safer investment opportunities within the sector at this stage.

Interim: 1976-77 (1975-76)

Capitalization £8.08m (£19.1m)

Pre-tax profits £1.78m (£2.39m)

Dividend gross 3.95p (3.62p)

Hogg Robinson

As the pound rallies

Hogg Robinson's misfortune in making too much profit in the first half of last year has continued to dog its performance in the first half of this year, with margins held down to compensate for the fact that the United Kingdom subsidiaries exceeded their reference level a year ago. It was not until August that the group obtained a respectable price rise to compensate for rising costs.

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Interim: 1976-77 (1975-76)

Capitalization £10.2m (£51m)

Pre-tax profits £3.55m (£16.000)

Dividend gross 3.85p (3.46p)

Johnson-Richards

As the pound rises

Johnson-Richards's misfortune in making too much profit in the first half of last year has continued to dog its performance in the first half of this year, with margins held down to compensate for the fact that the United Kingdom subsidiaries exceeded their reference level a year ago. It was not until August that the group obtained a respectable price rise to compensate for rising costs.

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Interim: 1976-77 (1975-76)

Capitalization £29.2m (£51m)

Turnover £10.6m (£51m)

Pre-tax profits £2.55m (£2.02m)

Dividend gross 5.5p (3p)

## Business Diary: Strike bonus: CEGB's reduced power



Bob Puddie: one more down

### Switchboard

The Central Electricity Generating Board, which has been operating two short of the normal board of six for more than a year, is to lose a third member in June.

This is Bob Puddie, who is leaving in June to succeed Sir Rutherford as chairman of the British-based South Eastern Electricity Board, on the latter's return in June to chair his alma mater, the North Eastern Electricity Board.

Puddie is therefore leaving to sell the power he has been holding to supply in the last five years in the industry, the last five years on the CEGB board. He leaves at the same time as CEGB chairman Sir Arthur Hawkins is being replaced by Glynn England.

Puddie is a nephew of Lord

Murphy, an AEGIS member.

He should be able to do even better with the foremen. Promotion was higher because certain restrictions imposed when men were on duty had now

been removed. The union has improved since the 450 foremen went on strike. The CEGB has maintained an agreed silence about the dispute, to the foremen's satisfaction. Because of this there is no cash alternative to Malaysian investment for the time being, but will come in the second stage of the plan, but in the meantime shareholders of the

new plan for a takeover by Harrison's Malaysian Estates

only needs the approval of shareholders of any two of the three companies. But, more

recently, the scheme needed the

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Arrangement covering Golden

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## Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments also on page 24

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

### SECRETARIAL

#### WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE

SPANISH SPEAKING SECRETARIAL/ASSISTANTS. WUS, an international development agency, is looking for secretarial assistants to work with a young team of graduate administrators running a scholarship programme for refugee students and academics for Chile.

Applicants should have secretarial qualifications, experience and some Spanish. Applications from non-graduates as well as graduates welcome.

Each assistant will work closely with one member of the team.

#### P.A./SECRETARY

A Personal Assistant/Secretary is also required to work with the General Secretary.

An interest in the work of WUS will be important. Salary on a scale £2,334 x £75 to £2,859 plus an additional cost of living allowance. Applications close Friday, 28th January, 1977.

Enquiries to Helen Hockenhull, World University Service, 260 High Road, London N15 4AJ. Tel: 01-808 5341.

#### TRI-LINGUAL SECRETARY

##### ALGERIA

Procon, a leading company in the field of Petro-Chemicals, requires a tri-lingual Secretary to join them now. Initially working in Greater London House, London, you will be relocated to Algeria in approximately 3 months time.

Working with the Manager on their contract in Algeria you will be entitled to free accommodation and free return flights every 3 months—all in addition to a very generous salary and the customary benefits of working abroad. Ideally, they are looking for a French national with full secretarial and the ability to work in both English and French, although someone fluent in just French and English may be considered.

Please apply to PENNY HARVEY at

PROCON (GREAT BRITAIN) LTD.  
Greater London House,  
Hampstead Rd., London, N.W.1  
Tel.: 01-837 9411

#### SECRETARIES

##### NEW MELDEN

Here are two excellent opportunities to join Air Products—the fastest-moving name in the industrial gas business—at our European headquarters in New Melden:

##### CHIEF LAWYER

The first, is to work for the head of our European law group: an exciting job with plenty of involvement across a very wide range of legal matters. Previous legal experience is not essential but you must have reached a good standard of education.

##### PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

The second, is to join our busy and professional personnel department which handles all personnel-related activities for our European organization including recruitment, training and development.

Both positions will appeal to those with good secretarial skills and plenty of initiative who are looking for a job with responsibility. Age: 23-35.

We offer an attractive starting salary and excellent conditions of employment at our modern, air conditioned offices right next door to the BR station.

Please write with brief details to: Miss E. C. Wren, Personnel Officer, Air Products, Limited, Combe House, St. George's Square, New Malden, Surrey.

We are going to add

#### TWO SECRETARIES to a very pleasant setting

##### INTERESTED?

Procon is a large Petro-Chemical Company located in Greater London House, Hampstead Road, London. It's a pleasant, modern block, near Regent's Park, and just opposite the British Underwater Swimming Club. Once inside you'll find open plan offices with a warm, friendly atmosphere and lots of young people.

Why not, we're right now we need two Senior Secretaries for the following vacancies:

##### PERSONNEL

We want a competent person with a wide range of skills as Secretary/PA to work with two Personnel Managers. Previous experience in Personnel would be advantageous but is not essential.

##### SALES

Our Sales Director needs an experienced Secretary/PA who can demonstrate the full range of Secretarial skills. A bright, friendly and outgoing person is required to assist in the administration of the business. Once inside you'll find open plan offices with a warm, friendly atmosphere and lots of young people.

As well as excellent salaries, we offer an attractive range of fringe benefits which include: L.V.

If you would like to know more about either vacancy please write in or telephone:

PENNY HARVEY

BT

PROCON (GREAT BRITAIN) LTD.  
Greater London House  
Hampstead Road, London, N.W.1  
Tel: 01-837 9411

#### Clerical/Secretarial Assistant

##### THE TAVISTOCK INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS

A Social research and training organization requires a Clerical/Secretarial Assistant to a member of the administrative staff concerned with the organization of training courses. Varied and interesting work includes assessing and collecting students' fees, answering enquiries and dealing with applications.

Fast, accurate typing and ability to work well with figures essential. Knowledge of shorthand or audio typing as advantage. Good knowledge of figures and ability to work well with figures essential. Knowledge of shorthand or audio typing as advantage. Four weeks' annual leave. Commencing salary, depending on ability and experience, on scale £2,232 to £2,949 or £2,847 to £3,357. In addition supplements are paid for specified typing qualifications. Further information and application form: Mrs. E. K. Ismail or Mrs. B. Simpson, The Tavistock Institute of Human Relations, The Tavistock Centre, 120 Belgrave Lane, London NW3 5BA.

#### SECRETARY FOR PUBLISHING COMPANY TO £3,000

The Assistant General Manager of a major Newspaper/Magazine Publishing House requires a Secretary. Good shorthand and typing required plus ability to work on an innovative basis. Please telephone today:

MISS CONWAY

UNITED NEWSPAPERS LTD.  
25/26 NEW BOND STREET  
LONDON EC4Y 9DR  
01-503 5159

TOP SECRETARY/P.A. with initiative required for small friendly firm. Good shorthand and typing required plus ability to work on an innovative basis. Please telephone today:

MISS CONWAY

UNITED NEWSPAPERS LTD.  
25/26 NEW BOND STREET  
LONDON EC4Y 9DR  
01-503 5159

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY (23-35), with shorthand for Mayfair Publishing Company. Excellent atmosphere. Salary £2,150 + £100.00 per annum. Phone 01-630 9353.

WEST END—Unique secretarial position required for experienced Secretary/Assistant. In memory. Please telephone 01-493 0373.

MISS CARYL BRAHMS requires part-time Personal Assistant. Good typing required. Tel: 01-634-7000.

GOOD INTELLIGENT YOUNG shorthand typist/Secretary to work in a friendly office. Excellent atmosphere. Salary £2,150 + £100.00 per annum. Phone 01-630 9353.

INTERESTED IN FASHION. Bridgeman's, 100 New Bond Street, W.1. Tel: 01-630 6555.

SECRETARY for small business. Paddington Area. Salary £2,700. Shorthand required. Tel: 01-582 2042.

SOMEWHAT NICE in Knightsbridge. Secretary needed. P.A./Sec. for small business. Tel: 01-582 2042.

INTERESTED IN FASHION. Bridgeman's, 100 New Bond Street, W.1. Tel: 01-630 6555.

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## Stock Exchange Prices **More ground lost**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Jan 4. Dealings End. Jan 14. 6 Contango Day. Jan 17. Settlement Day Jan 21.

**6. Forward bookings are permitted on two previous days.**

Afore ye go

# **BELL'S** **SCOTCH WHISKY**

"Afore ye go"

### **• Flat interest yield**





# La creme de la creme Opportunities

-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

All recruitment advertisements in this category are open to both male and female applicants

## Top Jobs for Top People

### MERCHANT BANK CITY

An opportunity for an efficient young secretary to her/his twentys to become Secretary to a Junior Director of a famous Merchant Bank. The prospects and benefits are excellent. Convenient to Liverpool Street. Starting salary to £3,200.

Contact: Mrs. D. Shaef 01-235 9984

### MAYFAIR

to £3,200

A young secretary with plenty of initiative and drive, who is looking for a career in Personal work, is needed by a top Company. Good shorthand and typing skills form a basis for administrative work and a range and variety of duties above the average.

Contact: Mrs. J. Armit 01-235 9984

### P.A. W.1. Starting £3,200

The Consultancy division of a National Employers' Federation requires a P.A./Secretary to their General Manager. Sound secretarial skills and a high standard of English are essential. This is a key position and administrative and executive will be fully appreciated. Twice annual salary reviews, + merit bonuses, also L.V.s and pension scheme. Own office. Age range 21-30.

Contact: Miss M. Cornforth 01-235 9984

### HAMMERSMITH

to £3,200

A capable secretary who is looking for a career that offers responsibility and interest, is required by a large and progressive Company. Shorthand and typing skills must be good, administrative duties cover the overseas trading aspects for a division. Staff restaurant, season ticket loan and exceptional facilities. Age 22-35.

Contact: Miss A. Moriarty 01-235 9984

### PER Executive Secretaries

45 Grosvenor Place Hyde Park Corner

Responsible and varied position in rapidly expanding company

### SECRETARY/P.A.

### TO COMPANY CHAIRMAN

#### MIDDLESEX

#### SALARY NEGOTIABLE

Intelligent Secretary/Personal Assistant required for chairman of expanding public company with interests in the U.K. and overseas. The successful applicant will have a good standard of education, accurate shorthand and typing although good speed not essential, pleasant personality and the ability to work on own initiative.

Applications in confidence to The Chairman, Rembrandt House, 539 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex. Telephone 01-568 0532.

### Assistant to the BUSINESS DIRECTOR

The Business Director is responsible for the marketing and promotion of a wide range of publications with an international circulation and for subscription and sales administration.

An assistant is required to deal with routine matters such as inquiries by letter and telephone, handling of advertisements and all stages of promotional mailings.

Previous experience in the book trade, advertising or marketing is desirable but not essential. Providing candidates can demonstrate other relevant qualities, the ability to write and edit copy, the ability to type a high standard. An attractive salary, luncheon vouchers, pension scheme and 4 weeks holiday are offered.

Please write giving full details to the Administrative Manager, Economic Intelligence Unit, Spencer House, 27 St. James's Place, London SW1A 1NT.

### PA, AGED 20-30

with good typing (some shorthand) who can organise the smooth running of the office, cope with problems, handle business clientele in the Boss's absence, and deal with customers. The applicant will be required to be intelligent and communicative to meet the demands of this important position. A commercial salary of £3,500 is offered along with four weeks holiday.

Please write, giving details of past experience, and enclose a recent photograph, to:

### CONSORT TRAVEL

12 New Burlington St, London, W.1

### PA TO RAIL PRODUCTS MANAGER

Age: 30-40 years. Assistance is required in Administration, Marketing, Selling and Follow-up. Involvement with indirect contact with clients and suppliers in the creation of bids on rail products throughout the U.K., Europe and the Middle East. Tact and the ability to think logically and communicate are essential, together with shorthand and typing skills. This is a permanent position in our office and we believe we can offer the right applicant long term satisfaction. Excellent salary. This will not be a mundane job.

Please phone 01-408 1071 or write to Ron Howard

L. B. FOSTER LTD., 87-89 Park Street, London W1Y 4NQ

### FILM PRODUCTION SOUTH KENSINGTON

Small Film Production Company are seeking an experienced Secretary/PA to help run the office, keep the books straight, type and generally look after 3 people.

If you're very efficient, interested in film and would like to make £2,000 a month in a good home based on £500 weekly DRURY on 581 2008.

### HOUSES! FLATS!

Time for a change? We have a few basic flats for rent, need a super-letting agent and spring into action. Small office, friendly, easy to let. Tel: 730 9856

### MOTIVATED MAYFAIR PROPERTY MAN

across "right arm" with initiative to meet clients and organise discussions with boss. Many clients interested.

Salary c. £3,500 + bonus

Apply to: G. Schatz, 493 8892, 9.30 a.m.-7 p.m.

### MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

22 Charing Cross Rd., W.C.2

01-536 3754/5

### SENIOR PARTNER of firm of Quantity Surveyors

SECRETARY/PA

In small friendly offices in the West End, interesting pressure. £1,000 plus, about £3,000 plus, bonus, various benefits.

Please Mr Mayman 01 3341

### TO £3,500 (+ TRAVEL) W.C.10

### SENIOR P.A./SEC.

for Managing Director of rapidly expanding Leisure Group. Adaptive person who can delegate work, good shorthand, good driver, £10,000 plus, some travel. Tel: Jane Bowkurst, 01-804 8636

### STADIUM STAFF

### ARE YOU EASY-GOING BUT QUICK-WITTED?

### HIGH GRADE SECRETARY/P.A.

for Managing Director of rapidly expanding Leisure Group. Adaptive person who can delegate work, good shorthand, good driver, £10,000 plus, some travel. Tel: Jane Bowkurst, 01-804 8636

### SECRETARY/P.A.

for Managing Director of rapidly expanding Leisure Group. Adaptive person who can delegate work, good shorthand, good driver, £10,000 plus, some travel. Tel: Jane Bowkurst, 01-804 8636

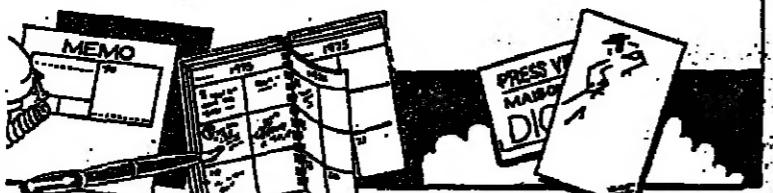
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### PRESS VICE-MARSHAL

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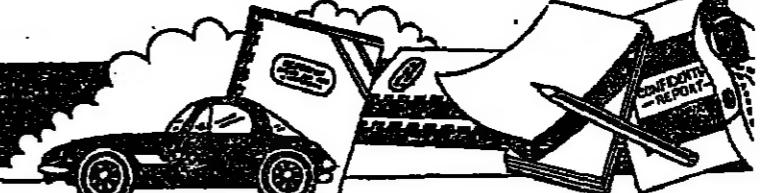
### MEMO

### REPORT



## La creme de la creme Opportunities

-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-



All recruitment advertisements in this category are open to both male and female applicants

**\$4,000—EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**  
With fluent French or Spanish, + 2 European languages for  
C.I.T. Attractive fringe benefits. Age 28-35 years.  
**£3,700—INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING, W.I.**  
A great deal of variety in hectic interesting post as Sec. to  
M.D., not too many letters. Age flexible. £3 p.w. £100.  
**£3,500—MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS, W.I.**  
+ bonus, and restaurant facility, perks. P.A. to M.D.—factual  
personality. Extraordinary operation requires smooth, efficient  
personality.  
**£3,250 + 7½% BONUS + MANY PERKS/DISCOUNTS**  
G.V. flex. Initiative and excellent grounding essential.  
**INFORMATION SERVICES SEC. W.I.**  
For various P.R. Accts. Direct consumer contact. Slow & steady.  
**NS EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS**

Danes Inn House,  
265 Strand, W.C.2.  
01-405 9751-4.

### SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR OF THOMSON TRAVEL

#### HOLIDAY INDUSTRY

The Director in question has recently been appointed, with responsibilities for tour operating, cruising and retailing. The offices are in Hampstead Road, NW1. Applicants, aged 23+, should be used to working on their own initiative. A starting salary of around £3,000 is envisaged and really excellent conditions of service include generous holiday concessions.

For further information please telephone Jane Griffiths, Thomson Holidays, Greener London House, Hampstead Road, London NW1 7SD. Tel: 01-387 9321.

### EAST PUTNEY/BATTERSEA PARK PARTNER'S SECRETARY

required for an expanding firm of Consulting, Civil and Structural Engineers. The challenging position offered, requires a person with initiative, flexibility and minimum age of 23 years. The busy Practice is at present situated in East Putney, but in late Spring, will be transferring to a modern office block in pleasant surroundings at Albert Bridge adjacent to Battersea Park. Salary is commensurate with age and experience. For further information apply to—

Mr. R. J. Dibon,  
WHITEHORN & PARTNERS,  
132 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London S.W.15.  
Tel: 01-470 5745.

### EXECUTIVE PA/SECRETARY c. £24,500

#### UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

Our client (a small, fast growing advertising agency) is looking for a true PA/Secretary, who is interested to learn about Loyalty and Broking. Only a small proportion of your work will be spent doing secretarial work; the remainder will be sales. Salary is commensurate with age and experience.

For further information apply to—

Mr. R. J. Dibon,  
WHITEHORN & PARTNERS,  
132 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London S.W.15.

### Personal Assistant/Secretary

Dynamic aircraft sales company has immediate vacancy for a P.A./Secretary. Excellent secretarial skills. Ability to work on own initiative essential. Excellent prospects for someone with personality and organizing ability.

Telephone Derek Lowe  
01-405 9051.

### BILINGUAL SECRETARY £4,000+

An efficient Secretary with fluent French, is needed to work at the head office of an international, City-based company. 20% travel required.

### PRIVATE SECRETARY £3,400

A cultured Secretary, interested in running her own business, is needed for a well-known private individual. We are looking for the West End location.

**ANGELA MORTIMER  
LTD.**

### Career plan

828 4835 (City)  
734 4284 (West End)

### ADVERTISING c. £3,500

Vice-Chairman of a large needs Advertising Company needs a smart, well educated Secretary, used to working at Senior level. Good secretarial and typing skills required. Salary £3,000 neg. Please contact Mr. Robinson, 572 5371.

### Career plan

724 4284 (West End)  
828 4284 (City)

### WE NEED

VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE  
FOR VERY SPECIAL JOBS IN  
ESPECIALLY INTERESTING  
FIELDS. We are a Personnel  
Specialist in Secretarial and  
General Personnel in the  
Communications

which includes Music, T.V.,  
Design, If you are a PA,  
Secretary, Admin. or  
Receptionist looking for that  
Temporary position, you  
like to hear from you.  
Call 01-537 3132  
and leave your name to us.  
**PATHFINDERS**  
22 Madge St., W.1

### ADVERTISING

New Business Director of  
friendly W.I. Agency is look-  
ing for a young and dynamic  
man. He is strong and  
ambitious and will reward you  
with a good remuneration  
and £3,000.

### 'THAT AGENCY'

160 Kensington High Street  
W8 01-927 4336

### CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

CIRCA £4,250 p.a.  
An interesting and demanding  
job requiring considerable  
time, for leading international  
manufacturing company.  
Good opportunities for working  
under pressure and developing  
class skills and presentation.  
Age 28-32.

### SEAN HAMILTON PERSONNEL

33 St. George's Street, W.1.  
01-5046

### Secretary

Why not combine the variety of temporary work with the security of a permanent post? We employ a small team of girls to carry out confidential relief assignments on a full or part-time basis. Shell Centre, opposite Waterloo Station. Age 25-30 with at least 2 years' experience of secretarial work and short-hand at 100/120 wpm. Dependent on experience, starting salary including London Allowance would be between £3,300 and £3,500.

Free 3-course lunches. 4 weeks' annual holiday, Sports and social facilities in the building.

Telephone 01-934 2828 for an application form or write to Shell International Petroleum Company Limited, LP/112, Shell Centre, London SE1 7NA.

### BOOK PUBLISHING

THAMES & HUDSON SEEK AN EDITORIAL ASSISTANT FOR A SENIOR EDITOR

The successful applicant will have...

About 2 years publishing experience preferably on illustrated books.

A good Arts degree.

Competent shorthand/typing skills.

In addition a working knowledge of German, French or Italian would be a considerable advantage, as would a knowledge of Art and Art History.

The job offers involvement in a wide range of editorial activities including copy-editing and proof reading; and carries an attractive salary, 4 weeks' holiday and modern pension scheme.

Write or phone Rachel Galleyer, 32 Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1. 01-528 5488.

### INTERESTED IN THE ARTS?

Director seeks top calibre

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT

(shorthand necessary) with good admin. ability who is interested in dealing with foreign dignitaries.

£3,400+

JAYGAR CAREERS  
730 5148

### Worth over £3,000 p.a.?

You could be. If you can convince us that you can be trained to sell the benefits of classified advertising to 100,000 business clients from their ads. You would be paid £1-25 and required to at least £3,000. We are a well known and highly regarded company. You will certainly be hardworking and competitive and looking for a rewarding, challenging career. In return we offer five weeks' annual holiday, 32-hour week and a pension scheme. Write or phone 387 2800, ext. 208.

THOMSON REGIONAL NEWSPAPERS LTD.

10 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2DE  
Hampstead Road, London NW1 7SM

### AS YOU LIKE IT

Super-organized ? Secretary/P.A. in a W1 (top left corner) fashion design/promotion/employment/design/entertainment. Up to £3,500 to start, and then the sky's the limit. For a non-smoking, single, friendly, person, with a good sense of humour, and more, and switchboard too. Short-hand/typing (100/120 wpm), no computer! Once a week, evenings, and weekend. Paid-all-trades for the MD of a self-owning management firm. City-based, need to be mobile. Direct involvement with operation of ships, plus records, tele, some shorthand/typing, some accountancy, some computer. Up to £3,500 for common sense and initiative.

Please send curriculum vitae and details of your current salary to: Miss Lynne Fairhall, 115 New Bond Street, London, W.1.

Ring: 01-493 2155/0806



29 New Bond Street,  
London W1Y 8HD.

### SKILLED ADMINISTRATOR

Medical and Nursing Services

London £3,500 p.a. +

Responsibilities will include the recruitment and training of staff and the general supervision of the Company's U.K. branches.

Applicants should be aged 26 or over, preferably with a professional qualification. Proven organisational abilities are obviously essential and nursing experience would be an advantage.

Please send curriculum vitae and details of your current salary to: Miss Lynne Fairhall, 115 New Bond Street, London, W.1.

### UNUSUAL & INTERESTING POSITION

Canadian Executive resident in London requires SECRETARY/GIRL FRIDAY to attend to his affairs. He travels a great deal—hence frequent absences.

She must keep track of his whereabouts; maintain regular contact; process his expenses; make his travel arrangements; make his appointments; be his chauffeur; manage his flat. She must take initiative, learn quickly, be willing to work odd hours and days in return for considerable free time. She must be personable and of attractive appearance—on occasion be his hostess and companion. Obviously she must be intelligent and sophisticated. Salary negotiable.

Please send full details to Advertising, 1246 Fulger Street, Apt. 101, Sanibel, Florida, U.S.A. 33957. Interview arranged in London late January.

£3,500

If you have sound office experience and enjoy meeting people, then you might be the person we are looking for.

We are a central commercial training college, specializing in concentrated Courses and require a good organizer used to working without supervision, someone who is smart, capable and able to lay her hand to almost anything. Full training and high rewards for the right person.

Interested? Phone Diana on 01-37 3761.

### WINCHESTER Circa £3,000

A Secretary/P.A. with good skills—shorthand—£12—is required for the Chairman and Overseas Director of a well-established advertising and travel company operating throughout the U.K. and Europe. The work is interesting, varied, and includes some travel. Good fringe benefits include free travel, car, pension, etc.

Excellent fringe benefits include free travel, car, pension, etc.

Please send full details to Advertising, 1246 Fulger Street, Apt. 101, Sanibel, Florida, U.S.A. 33957. Interview arranged in London late January.



Remember that job you  
promised  
yourself...  
It's ready!

If you can sell or be trained to sell, have a  
acuity for really hard work and are seeking an interesting  
and challenging career, you could be the person  
that we are looking for. We are able to offer:  
four weeks' three days' paid holidays after the  
6 months and 5 weeks after a year, a subsidized  
lunch and first-class conditions in a new, air-  
conditioned office building. In addition, we will see  
you have intensive training to help you be success  
and the opportunity to earn over £3,000 per annum  
including bonus.

So if you are suffering from a lack of challe  
and stimulus, apply now for a job in The Times 1  
phone Sales Department selling the benefits  
Classified Advertising in one of the best newspa  
in the World, helping private and professional pe  
get the best results from their advertisements.

### SECRETARY/P.A. WITH A LITTLE EXTRA UP TO £3,500

Holding Company for several Advertising Agencies need a  
cheerful, intelligent Secretary to assist charming Develop  
Executive with his takeover and merger problems. Many o  
and an ability to collate information essential. Conversat  
French and German useful. Own office for somebody  
experience at Management level.

### AMERICAN OIL COMPANY MAYFA UP TO £3,400

Busy demanding Executive requires top line Secretary/P.A.  
unload the responsibilities of the running of his office, m  
personality, ability to work under pressure essential qualificat

### SENIOR SECRETARIES

173 New Bond St., W.1. 01-499 0092; 01-493 5507.

### TOP PA/SEC

£3,500  
Small, friendly fashion company  
requires a PA to work 1 day and catch up  
full P.A. duties. Phone Call Cowan.

### SENIOR SECRETARIES

499 8743  
ALFRED MARKS BUREAU  
OXFORD CIRCUS

### BILINGUAL WEMBLEY PARK

Small office with French and English shorthand  
approx. 6 months.

### SENIOR SECRETARIES

499 8743  
ALFRED MARKS BUREAU  
OXFORD CIRCUS

### SENIOR SECRETARIES

499 8743  
ALFRED MARKS BUREAU  
OXFORD CIRCUS

### DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

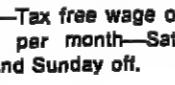
### DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

### COOK/HOUSEKEEPER

### U.S.A.

American family returning to New York, July 1976, require  
very experienced and reliable  
Secretary to their Chairman.  
Excellent French, Spanish  
and German. Good  
organizational ability, good  
sense of humour and a  
good attitude to work.

For further information call  
637 9922  
Prime Appointments



### NANNY

For two children in Germany, Boy, 8 years, Girl, 5 years. Both speak English. Prefer that English be spoken at home. Drivers licence is necessary.

Living and full board included—Tax free wage of  
DM700. per month—Saturday and Sunday off.

## Business for Sale

## YOUR OWN PREMISES OR £15 P.W. INCLUSIVE

A block unit is available in Golders Green NW11. Rent £1,500 per month. £3 cost of £15 p.w. inclusive per day. Ideal for hairdressers, chemists, opticians, accountants, or for travel agency, dry cleaning, alterations and tailoring.

Want to know more? Please call 01-8235 0011 or 01-211 1599 over.

## Commercial Services

LY AUTOMATIC roll-ed roll-up curtains and plain curtains. At the most competitive prices. Tel. 01-211 1599.

Office Equipment

Supplying and fitting

Computers, Photocopying

and for travel agency, dry

cleaning, alterations and tailoring.

Want to know more? Please call 01-8235 0011 or 01-211 1599 over.

Business Opportunities



To place an advertisement in any of these categories, tel  
Private Advertisers only 01-837 3311  
Manchester office 061-834 1234  
Appointments 01-278 9161  
Personal Trade 01-278 9351

Antiques and Birds 27  
Business to Business 27  
Educational Situations 27  
Entertainments 6 8 29  
Flat Sharing 27  
La Crème de la Crème 28 29  
Legal Notices 27  
Property 23 and 24  
Public Notices 27  
Secretarial and Nupt. 20 and 24  
Situations Wanted 27

Box Numbers should be  
The Times  
No. 1, Printing House Square,  
London WC1A 2EE

Deadline for cancellations and  
submissions in copy (except for  
Business to Business) is 11.30 hrs prior to the day of  
issue. The deadline in 12 noon  
for the classified advertisements  
in the advertisements. On any  
cancellation, the cancellation  
will be effected. This step  
will be taken if you do not  
PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD.  
We make every effort to avoid  
errors. One is carefully checked and  
checked. If any errors are found,  
advertisements are handled  
each day mistake to occur and  
we will correct it. If you find  
your ad. and if you spot an  
error, please contact the  
advertising department immediately  
(01-7180). We request that we  
cannot be responsible for  
incorrect or incomplete  
information if you do not.

Commit the words onto the  
box and the thought will be  
published—provides 12 w.

BIRTHS

BONE—On 1st January to Terry  
and Barbara, son (Gumman  
Jewelry).

BRADY—On 9th January to Amelia  
Royal Free Hospital, a daughter,  
Sarah, Sophie Elizabeth.

BURKE—On January 11th at  
University College Hospital,  
London, a son, nee William  
(John), a brother of Ced.

CHADWICK and FAYLA (Williams)—  
a son, Lee Michael, a brother  
of Sarah, a son, Cedric.

ST. L'EST MORON, Keighley.

DEVLIN—On January 10th to  
Rev. Charles George Hamill,  
Bath, a son, nee William  
(John), a brother of Ced.

FRITH—On 11th January to the  
Community Hospital, to due  
date, a son, nee William.

GARDNER and Jan, at Florence,  
Italy, and Katherina, nee Grindel;

Piers Justin, a brother of  
Sarah, a son, Cedric.

HAMILTON—On Jan. 10, at  
Rev. Andrew's Hospital, London,  
a son, nee William, and  
Andrew—daughter, Cedric.

LEWIS—On January 10th to  
Mairi, a son, nee William, and  
daughter, Cedric.

MICHAEL—On Jan. 8th to  
Anne and William, a daughter  
and son, Cedric.

NALETT—On January 13th to  
The Fowlers Hospital, Lyndhurst,  
a son, Cedric and Trevor.

TURNER—On January 11th to  
Gill, a son, nee William, and  
daughter, Cedric.

WALSHAW—On January 10th to  
John, a son, nee William, and  
daughter, Cedric.

WATSON—On January 10th to  
Rutherford Hospital, Asco, to  
John, a son, nee William, and  
daughter, Cedric.

WILSON—On January 10th to  
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WILSON—On January 10th to  
John, a son, nee William, and  
daughter, Cedric.

WILSON—On January 10th to  
John, a son, nee William, and  
daughter, Cedric.

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daughter, Cedric.

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